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AMERICAN MAY 1990 VOLUME 12 NUMBER 5 The Magazine of Self Reliance GUIDE



COVER:

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Survival Weapons Fed Ord Ranger Lite24 Survival Gear Mini Mamba Knife50 Health and Food Survival Living and Environments Survival How-To Departments



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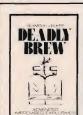




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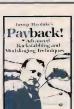
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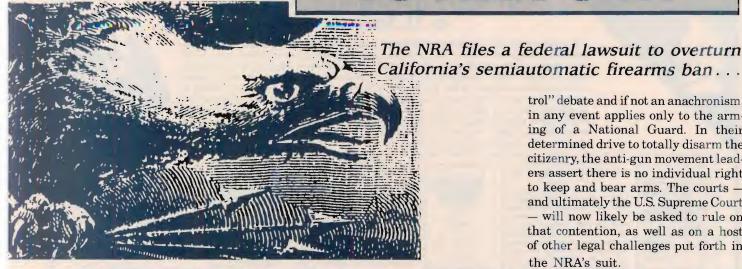
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TO THE POINT



TINETEEN EIGHTY-NINE was a very difficult year for American firearms owners.

The forces of the political left in this country, strongly represented in the nation's news media and in government, who have long been dead-set against American firearms ownership, did everything they could to whip up public hysteria over the shooting rampage of the psychotic drifter Patrick Purdy in a Stockton, California, school vard in which 5 children were killed and 30 others wounded by Purdy using a semiautomatic AK-47 rifle.

One of the worst results of that hysteria was last year's passage in California of a draconian, unconstitutional and otherwise illegal ban on the sale, manufacture and possession of dozens of semiautomatic firearms, and severe restrictions on Californians who already possess those weapons.

This was accomplished by the concerted actions of a largely anti-gun press (such as the leftist Los Angeles Times), California's State Legislature, controlled for many years now by powerful leftist politicians, and numerous government officials, some leftwing and vehemently anti-firearm ownership like Attorney General John Van de Kamp, and some supposedly conservative Republicans-primarily our turncoat Governor, George Deukmejian. Deukmejian was elected on a platform that opposed harsh gun control but he abandoned the gun owners who voted for him during the hysteria over assault-type firearms and willingly joined forces with California's radical left wing to deprive law-abiding Californians of their rights, as did a number of other politicians who previously had represented themselves as pro-gun.

On Feb. 14 of this year the NRA filed suit in U.S. District Court in Fresno challenging the legality of this first-in-the-nation ban on sale and possession of many military-style semiautomatic weapons. Basically, the lawsuit asserts that the California ban violates several provisions of federal law and the U.S. and California constitutions.

The lawsuit contends California's Assault Weapons Control Act, as it is called, "is preempted by the federal Civilian Marksmanship Program and the Firearms Owners' Protection Act, infringes on the right of the people to keep arms, violates the right to privacy and to defend the home, is a bill of attainder, grants privileges and immunities not granted on the same terms to all citizens, violates the right against self-incrimination, and otherwise violates the Unites States Constitution and the California Constitution."

The lawsuit sets the stage for a critical and historic battle over the rights of free citizens of this country to keep and bear an entire class of firearms, specifically, military-type semiautomatic firearms ideally suited for defense of one's home or this nation, should the need arise.

The powerful and dangerous antigun-ownership forces in our society, who find a willing mouthpiece and propaganda organ in much of our mass media to brainwash the public, have long contended that the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which declares that the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed, is irrelevant in the "gun control" debate and if not an anachronism, in any event applies only to the arming of a National Guard. In their determined drive to totally disarm the citizenry, the anti-gun movement leaders assert there is no individual right to keep and bear arms. The courts and ultimately the U.S. Supreme Court will now likely be asked to rule on that contention, as well as on a host of other legal challenges put forth in the NRA's suit.

While the NRA is paying for legal costs, it is joined as a plaintiff in the suit by the Fresno, California, Rifle and Pistol Club, the California Rifle and Pistol Association and numerous individuals, among them law enforcement officers, two women who shoot high power rifles competitively, several Californians who participate in the U.S. Army's Civilian Marksmanship program, and one Arizona resident who travels through California to target shoot in Oregon.

Also plaintiffs in the lawsuit are Springfield Armory, Inc. and Heckler and Koch, Inc., the manufacturers and or importers of firearms specifically outlawed by the California ban.

The sole defendant in the suit is California's Attorney General John K. Van de Kamp who is vigorously antigun and who lobbied forcefully for the semiautomatic ban. He is being sued in his official capacity as the person responsible for administration and enforcement of the law.

In some ways I'm elated about the lawsuit and in others I'm worried. The courts, as the NRA has noted, are political animals, and if the judges/justices who decide the case wish to interpret the laws of the country in favor of the anti-gun-ownership movement, we could well see the elimination of legal public firearms possession very quickly in this country.

As he crusaded for the ban on semiautomatic weapons in California last year, Van de Kamp declared that the struggle of the anti-gun forces to outlaw these guns is the fight "of our lives." And so it is also for the progun forces, "the fight of our lives." - Jim Benson.

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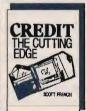
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SURVIVAL LINE

Environmental terrorism hotline established, Gun Rights Factbook statistics refute anti-gunners, heterosexual AIDS 'epidemic' exaggerated, scientists say. . .

THE vast majority of people in the environmental movement are well intentioned and law abiding. Recently however, some of the more extreme elements in the movement have undertaken actions which can only be labeled as environmental terrorism. Some of these actions have included attempted bombings in the name of animal liberation, planting metal spikes in trees about to be logged, and purportedly, in the case of one group opposed to pesticide spraying, releasing Mediterranean fruit flies in a major agricultural region of California.

In an effort to counter those who would use environmental terrorism to attain their goals, the non-profit Mountain States Legal Foundation has opened a hotline for people with information about acts of environmental terrorism. The goals of the foundation are to document where and when such acts occur, help in apprehending those responsible, and warn those who might be endangered by such acts. Foundation President William Pendly notes that environmental terrorism is more "than damage to machinery... People are being injured, and it won't be long before someone is killed." Those with any pertinent information are asked to call the foundation hotline at (303) TESTIFY.

Debating Points — Alan M. Gottlieb, chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, has authored a book called the *Gun Rights Factbook* which is filled with information and statistics you can use in debating the anti-gunners, or in answering the anti-gun editorials too often found in the nation's newspapers.

Here are some of the interesting statistics found in the *Gun Rights Fact-book*. Gun deaths account for only 2 percent of all the accidental deaths in the U.S. More than 99.9 percent of American gun owning households do not experience a gun accident in any given year. Fatal firearms accidents in the home have gone down 64 percent

in the past 17 years. Handguns were used in self defense some 645,000 times last year. 3,000 criminals are killed, and 16,000 others wounded each year by law abiding citizens defending themselves from attack. Lastly, a recent study shows that owning a gun saves the lives of 20,000 people each year who use their weapons to defend themselves against violent attack.

AIDS Exaggeration Of the 113,211 AIDS cases in the United States, only some 4.8 percent or 5,457, can be traced to heterosexual relations. Further, most of those 5 percent of heterosexual AIDS patients were the regular partners of intravenous drug users, transfusion recipients, hemophiliacs, and in a few cases, bisexuals. "The myth is that it's spreading from 'hetero' to 'hetero'," says former AIDS researcher Michael Fumento, author of *The Myth of Heterosexual AIDS*.

The recently released book has been drawing fire from AIDS activists and homosexual groups which have called the author "homophobic and sexist."

Still, there are a growing number of researchers who are beginning to suggest that the so-called epidemic of AIDS in the heterosexual community is a result of a sensationalist press, combined with self-serving AIDS activists and homosexual groups.

Another researcher, health economist Joel Hay of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, has called into question the current government estimate of the total number of HIVinfected people in the United States. That number is now said to be between 950,000 and 1.45 million by government sources. Hay, using a statistical method known as "back calculation," has concluded that the government figures might be off by a factor of two, Hay's numbers show an estimated 640,000 HIV-infected people in the U.S. He uses the same technique in predicting the number of new AIDS cases reported monthly. •

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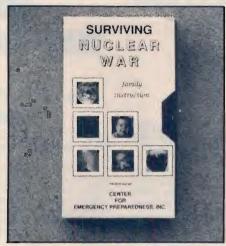
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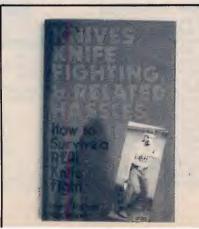
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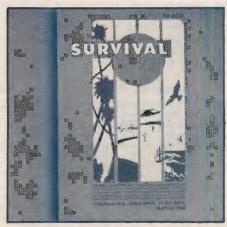
Surviving Nuclear War, a video produced by the Center for Emergency Preparedness. Available through NITRO-PAK Survival Foods & Supplies, 13243 E. Rosecrans Ave., Dept. ASG, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670; (213) 802-0099. VHS, \$20.95 each plus \$2.50 shipping.

This video examines the myths about nuclear war. The premise that nuclear war is unlikely, or that most people would die is simply not true! The video shows how to survive an attack and what will be needed in the very challenging recovery period afterward. Experts such as Dr. Edward Teller and Cresson Kearny teach important survival techniques. As we consider the world in which we live and the fact that there are literally thousands of nuclear warheads aimed at each other, prudence dictates that we must learn the facts. Taking the right steps can protect your family. It is true that during a nuclear exchange many people would die, but many more people would live. We must be ready to cope with new challenges and begin to rebuild. Our American heritage demands



Knives, Knife Fighting, & Related Hassles, How to Survive a Real Knife Fight, by Marc "Animal" MacYoung. Paladin Press, P.O. Box 1307, Dept. ASG, Boulder, CO 80306; (303) 443-7250; 120 pages, softcover. \$12 plus \$3.50 shipping.

"Finding yourself in the middle of a knife fight is no time to discover that you don't know what your doing. You can forget the useless stuff you've seen in the movies or learned in the dojo: if you don't, you'll probably end up in the morgue." Marc "Animal" MacYoung shows you the down-and-dirty reality of knives and knife fighting. How to avoid a knife fight, how to deal with someone who has pulled a knife, and when to escalate into full blown combat. "Knife fighting is not for cocky or ignorant people -they're weeded out really quick. You have to rely on your wits, mobility, speed, and knowledge in order to survive a very dangerous situation."



Survival, FM 21-76, Headquarters, Department of the Army. March 1986. SI Outdoor Food & Equipment, Dept. ASG, 15600 S. Figueroa St., Gardena, CA 90248; (213) 324-8855 or outside CA (800) 533-7415. 410 pages, softcover; \$14.95 plus \$2 shipping.

With over 100 color photos of edible and poisonous plants and another 25 color photos of poisonous snakes, this manual could be considered the best illustrated government survival book yet. 16 chapters detail the main subjects for living-off-the-land survival according to the Army's idea of escape and evasion. You'd have to be isolated in a pretty remote area to require most of these techniques, but the information is useful to have anyway. There's

a good chapter on the "Will to Survive" and also on "Survival Planning." Of course you get the usual: Water procurement, wild plants for food, wildlife for food, shelters, fire building, water crossings, direction finding, signaling, desert survival, tropical survival, arctic survival and sea survival. This book should be in your library.



Fatal Addiction, Ted Bundy's Final Interview with Dr. James C. Dobson. A video produced by Focus on the Family, Dept. ASG, Pomona, CA 91799. VHS, 56 minutes. To order call (800) 232-6459. There is a suggested donation of \$25.

At 7 a.m. on Tuesday, January 24, 1989, convicted serial killer Ted Bundy was put to death in the electric chair at Florida State Prison. He admitted murdering more than two dozen young women but is widely believed to have killed more. In this video, Bundy takes the viewers back to his roots, explaining the development of his compulsive behavior. He reveals his addiction to hard-core pornography and how it fueled the terrible crimes he committed. At one point in the interview Bundy makes this statement, "I can only hope that those who I have harmed... will believe what I'm saying now: that there are loose in their towns, in their communities, people like me today whose dangerous impulses are being fueled day in and day out by violence in the media." Is there a link between hard-core pornography and sexual violence? And why did the news media attack Dr. Dobson and the Bundy interview? Fatal Addiction will provide you with the complete story, one that the media would like to suppress.

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Ek Warrior

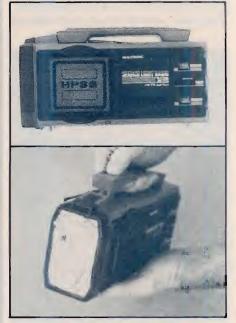
In recent years it's been virtually impossible to find an Ek Commando Knife for under \$100. Now, here at last, is a popularly priced Ek Commando Knife model for the budget minded. The Ek Warrior retails for only \$69, including high quality olive drab web sheath. It is rugged and basic and it gets the job done. The knife reminds us that no-nonsense design, good materials and American hand craftsmanship can never be replaced. The Ek Warrior features more steel than any other knife of its type and size. A sold bar of high carbon steel runs all the way through the wood grips to form the distinctive "Skull Crusher" pommel. The extended butt can be used as a pry bar or a hammer. The "handprint" grips are ergonomically shaped to fit the hand perfectly. Blade, crossguard and rivets are sandblasted to a non-reflective finish. The polished edge is extra sharp and the angle and direction of the bevel grinding make it easy to resharpen. Also included with the knife and military web sheath is a wrist thong. Contact Ek Commando Knives for more information at 601 N. Lombardy Street, Dept. ASG, Richmond, VA 23220; (804) 257-7272.



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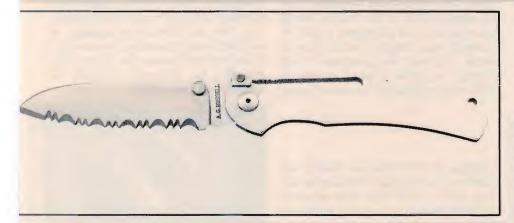




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with a standard first aid kit. Included are quantities of triangular bandages, gauze sponges and bandages, triple antibiotic ointment, extra large plastic strip bandages, maternity pads, eye pads, heavy drainage pack sponges, Kelfa non-adherent dressings, splints, space blankets, elastic bandage wraps, antiseptics towelettes and other sophisticated emergency medical care supplies plus triage tags and the Reader's Digest Handbook of First Aid for those who are not knowledgeable in emergency medical care. This kit is \$210.95 plus \$7 S&H from NITRO-PAK Survival Foods & Supplies, Dept. ASG, 13243 E. Rosecrans Ave., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670; (213) 802-0099.



Foreign Legion Knife

Designed by a former commando instructor, the P.R.O. dagger/utility knife is actually supplied to the French Foreign Legion and now available in limited supply in the U.S. at a very reasonable price. The 7-inch double edged matte blued blade is VH carbon steel with a Rockwell hardness of 60+and is 1/6.35 inches thick. It won't lose its color and strength despite repeated reheatings in use around camp fires. Overall length is 123/8 inches. Weight is just 12 ounces. Full

tang construction and very sharp. Zinc resin coated guard and pommel (useful for pounding). Comes with a handsome black Cordura Nylon sheath with ABS reinforced interior to protect the blade and wearer and removable black multi-function Velcro strips for carrying on gear other than a belt. Order your P.R.O. Knife for \$79 plus \$6 shipping and insurance from P.C.S.-U.S.A., Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 853, Franktown, CO 80116 (check, M.O. or VISA/MC orders accepted). Satisfaction guaranteed.

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Machined from a solid block of spring steel, even the spring and locking bar are part of the handle of A.G. Russell's One Hand Knife. This knife weighs barely more than 2 ounces, yet has great strength and cutting ability. The Paramedic version of the famous One Hand Knife series by A.G. Russell is designed for police, mountaineers, canoeists, paramedics and other individuals who need a knife that will cut anything and do it quickly with one hand if necessary. The back of the 3¹/₈-inch blade will make it possible for the user to slip the blade under a seat belt and cut the belt with small risk to the person in trouble. The Paramedic Model is designated K-87P and sells for \$64.97. Order from A.G. Russell-Fine Knives, Dept. ASG, 1705 Highway 71 North, Springdale, AR 72764-2397; orders toll free (800) 255-9034; questions, service, help (501) 751-7341.

NEW PRODUCTS

Composting Toilets

One of the most overlooked dangers facing the survivalist during a prolonged power failure/water shortage caused by a natural or manmade disaster is the backup of sewage in homes offices and factories or other places of human habitation. Raw sewage buildup can result in outbreak of deadly and debilitating diseases. The Swedes invented an answer to this problem 27 years ago. The idea is just now catching on in the U.S. It is the composting toilet, and the Sun-Mar Composting Toilet has been developed to perfection. It won the Gold Medal for best invention at the International Environmental Exhibition in Geneva, Switzerland. Its operation is simple and easy. Waste and toilet paper are composted to a peat moss-type substance that is odorless. This material is removed one to four times a year, depending on use. Human waste is 90 percent water which is evaporated and carried outside by a venting system. The air flow provides a negative pressure which ensures no back draft. You turn the handle on the Bio-Drum once every three days instead of flushing as you would normally do with a toilet after use. The rotation and aeration by the Bio-Drum, with the addition of organic material (one cup peat moss per person per day) ensures a fast, odorless,

aerobic breakdown of the compost. This is the only waste disposal system in the world that is in complete harmony with nature. Sun-Mar uses the finest grade fiber glass and stainless steel in construction of its toilets which are odorless, self contained and do-it-yourself and designed for all human waste disposal requirements. They require no septic system, no chemicals, no plumbing and no water (except

WCM Model which requires one pint of water per flush). Some models are designed to work with no electricity, although all will work with electricity if needed or desired (some models have heating elements to speed up composting). For an information package or answers to your questions, contact Bay Conservation Systems, Inc., Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 67, Wicomico Church, VA 22579; (804) 580-2091.



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Versa Volt is the world's first lantern battery substitute and, when using

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alkaline D Cell batteries, clearly outperforms the standard carbon-zinc lantern battery. The Versa Volt uses four D Cell batteries, converting them into a lantern battery in seconds. It accepts alkaline, lithium (when commercially available), solar, nickel-cadmium and carbon zinc batteries. Increases operating life up to 3 to 4 times. Decreases operating costs by up to 60 percent. Eliminates shelf life problems and expands the versatility of D size batteries. The Versa Volt provides a durable, shock-resistant housing for the D batteries. Available for \$3.95 plus \$1.50 S&H each from SI, Dept. ASG, 15600 S. Figueroa St., Gardena, CA 90248; (213) 324-8855 or 8859; outside California toll free (800) 533-7415.



Jungle King I & II Skinners

The Aitor Jungle King I & II Skinner knives have been in demand since they were originally introduced as part of the Aitor Jungle King series knives and sold only with these survival knives. Due to great demand, they are now being sold separately. Made of premium modified 440-B stainless steel with extra molybdenum and vanadium to "smooth out" the molecular texture,

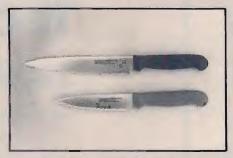


Utility Knives, ProFile Sharpener

Spyderco's Kitchen Utility Knives are just the thing for innumerable food preparation chores in the kitchen or around camp, not to mention a host of other practical uses. And now, for the knowledgeable knife sharpener, there's the compact Spyderco ProFile sharpening stone set to take along in your pack or keep at home for sharpening all types of knives and other equipment. Kitchen Utility series, also known as "Kitchen Rambos," are ex-



these skinners are tough and great for holding an edge. They come with durable, high quality web sheaths in olive drab color. The JK-I, the larger knife, has a sheath with military belt hanger release and rigid liner. A simpler sheath is used for the little JK-II skinner. The JK-II measures 5 inches in length and has a cutting edge of 11/2 inches. The JK-I is 7 inches overall with a cutting edge of 234 inches. Both knives feature a gut hook or "line cutter," bottle opener or can opener, inside serrations to tighten nuts, holes for wrapping cord or making a spear, thumb notches and a rear end screwdriver. Great for camping, backpacking, fishing, hunting or general survival purposes. The JK-I has a suggested retail price of \$29.95 and the JK-II is \$14.95. Ask your knife dealer about them, or contact Catoctin Cutlery, Dept. ASG, P. O. Box 188, Smithsburg, MD 21783; (301) 824-7416.



tremely sharp, extremely strong and corrosion resistant and extremely practical for home or outdoors tasks where light weight and utility are at a premium. The Model 1104 is the larger of the two utility knives, with an overall length of 1034 inches with a 61/2inch blade. The Model 1105 is 9 inches overall with a 41/2-inch blade. The blades are MBS-26 high carbon chrome molybdenum vanadium steel with a Rockwell hardness of 60 plus, exclusively available through Spyderco from

AIR-SOG

The AIR-SOG fills the demand for a lightweight, fast opening, multipurpose pocket knife. Small enough to be carried in any purse, coat, pack, etc., the AIR-SOG is big enough to satisfy the variety of chores you might require. Utilizing an ambidextrous thumb stud for one hand opening allows immediate access to the AIR-SOG's stainless steel bowie blade and awesome cutting power. The sleek, molded, glass-reinforced Zytel handle



Ultra Brakes

The Ultra Brake muzzle brake is available for most sporting rifles and handguns. Adds less than one inch to overall length of your barrel. The

Japanese master knifemaker Masahiro. Both models are available with the now famous serrated Spyderedge and the 1105 is also available with a plain edge for filleting work. Handles (black for both models or red also for 1105) are Sermollan, a rubberized plastic. Optional ABS blade guards (sheaths) are \$3.95. The ProFile is designed for those who know how to use sharpening stones to sharpen a wide variety of tools. There are two high alumina ceramic stones, graymedium (Mohs Scale 9.20) and whitefine (Mohs Scale 9.22), that store in a split leather sheath useful for steadying the stones when sharpening. Introduced this year, the ProFile Sharpener set is \$19.95. For more information or ordering contact Spyderco, Inc., Dept. ASG, P. O. Box 800, Golden, CO 80402; (800) 525-7770.

is checkered for passenger comfort and control. You're flying first class when you carry the AIR-SOG. Overall length opened is 71/4 inches. Blade is 31/4 by .1 inches. Weighs 2.2 ounces and comes with nylon pouch. The AIR-SOG also carries SOG Specialty Knives' lifetime guarantee of customer satisfaction. Suggested retail is \$39.95. For more information contact SOG Specialty Knives, Dept. ASG, P. O. Box 1024, Edmonds, WA 98020; (206) 771-6230.

Ultra Brake provides 45 percent measured recoil reduction and eliminates muzzle rise. These brakes are made from heat treated chromeoly steel with a tensile strength of 150,000 psi. Installation of the brake includes a match target crown. Most muzzle brake manufacturers rate their products' performance in terms of felt recoil. Holland's, maker of the Ultra Brake, prefers to take a more scientific approach, that of measured reduction in recoil. A 10-gun test video is available to demonstrate performance. The Ultra Brake is now available for AR-15. AK-47 and HK series rifles for \$29 each, as well as other firearms. For ordering or more information contact Holland's, Dept. ASG, Box 69, Powers, OR 97466; (503) 439-5155.

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Outdoor Skills:

Man Tracking Techniques

A search and rescue skill that can be very valuable...

By Lenny Hoover

DIAGRAM A

S EVERAL years back a member of our survival group had his young son disappear in the Coconino National Forest in the rugged country near Happy Jack, Arizona. When he got a call from his wife who had been visiting friends in the area, notifying him that his son had been lost, he immediately called me and as crisis leader of our group I activated all members with the only condition red emergency we have ever issued. The Coconino County Search and Rescue unit was called out and before long a massive search was under way to find the boy.

The emotions that a leader must face are very difficult during a crisis of this type. We all knew and loved the little boy. The dreadful heart rending of this situation actually put the boy's father out of commission by mid-day. My people were counting on me. I remember coming upon an old rock cistern and not being able to look in it. It took several minutes before I could do it. Then I had difficulty seeing the bottom of the thing through the patina of tears that covered my eyes. I could not let anyone else see, after all, they were depending on me.

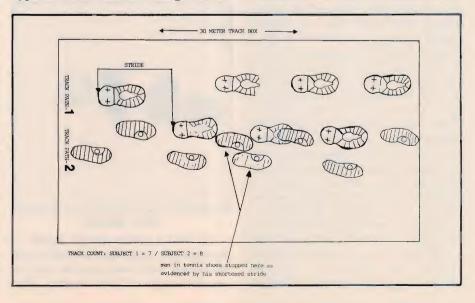
Finally, after some agonizing hours of searching, the boy was found. I made an oath to myself that if it were ever possible I would learn more about tracking and search and rescue techniques. It took several years but I kept that oath!

Search and rescue is really more of a science and to some degree an art. Many search and rescue units become drinking clubs and horseback roping leagues. It is unfortunate that this skill is many times not studied by those who claim to practice it. It was lucky for us that the Coconino Search and Rescue is one of the finest in the country. You would have to be when the Grand Canyon is part of your beat. One skill that impressed me and is the subject of this article is the art of man tracking.

Man tracking should not be confused with the tracking of game animals. While the two have similarities they also have wide differences. The basic type of search for the average search teams is the line search. This simply means get a group of people in a line and cover a specific quadrant on a map. While not as effective as many other methods it does have the benefit of being simple so that untrained and out of shape people can utilize it. Trackers should start ahead of these groups so that tracks or *sign* are not compromised by those who are trying to help.

Trackers or a tracking unit should start by casting for sign in the last reported place the lost person was seen. Footprints, clothing, shoes, gum wrappers or anything the lost person was known to have on his person can be used to mark his passage across the earth.

What method is most effective to initially find tracks? I like two, the Cross Grain and the Circle Cut. The Cross Grain (lower part of diagram A) is one you may have learned in the Boy Scouts. The searcher simply studies the earth for sign while walking in a pattern. This pattern is that of interlocking L's. For close study a person may wish to use very short legs in his pattern. If larger distances are needed that



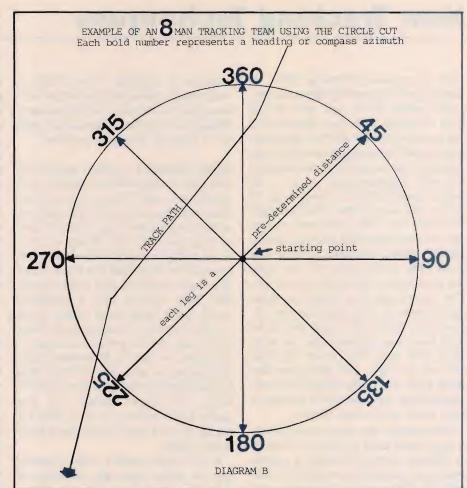
pattern can be enlarged. Two people can use the pattern working together as well.

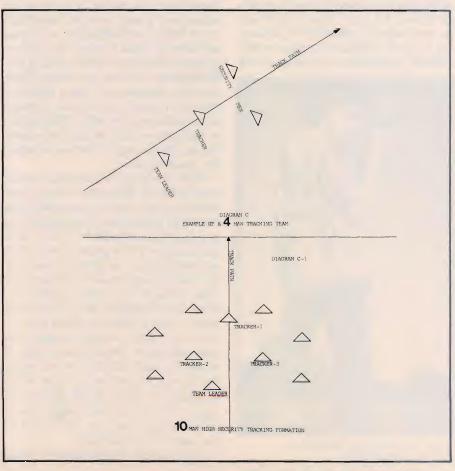
The other good track acquisition method is the Circle Cut (see diagram B). This is simply searching for signs by radiating from some central point for a given distance. the ending point of each leg will eventually describe a circle. This method can be used with one person but really comes into its own when you have three or more searchers. Each searcher can then travel a given distance on a compass heading searching for sign. Remember that as distance from the starting point increases so does the distance between each search leg. This method is particularly effective because it searches in a 360 degree circle instead of just one direction.

After careful searching let us say that our tracking team has found several tracks that have been identified as being the right size and perhaps the mother remembered that the shoe print looks like those on the boy's tennis shoes. What do you do? Keep untrained people away from the area and track boxes (see track box diagram) which can tell you how long the lost person's stride is, if he was running etc. Most of all get your team familiar with the imprint the shoe has made in the earth. Casts can be made of prints as well. Is a second person involved? Is the victim limping?

After finding tracks move down the trail left by them. Be careful not to obliterate them. If you are tracking a dangerous person you will need several people to keep watch for the bad guy (See diagrams C and C-1 for team security tracking formations). Even if foul play is not suspected use security formations. A luminous marker should be left along your back trail from time to time. It is easy for a single searcher or a search team to get lost simply because they concentrate on the ground and not landmarks. A team should have a navigator to avoid this problem. Security people should not track. It is good to have a spare tracker as it is very taxing and a tracking team can move faster even if the trackers spell each other every 20 minutes or so.

Another method can be used to find sign if you have identified a clear consistent trail of tracks. It is called cutting for sign (see 90-degree cut for sign, diagram A) This method can speed up a rescue by expediting tracking. Radios should really be used for this method. A tracker or tracking team is left on a set of tracks and





Man Tracking Techniques

tries to continue following them. A larger team then travels down the suspected route off to one side of the path of tracks and then members of the second team cut off from the main body (which is traveling parallel to the suspected track paths) at pre-selected intervals perpendicular or at a 90 degree angle from the main body of the second team. If one of these people who have "cut" for sign comes across the lost persons tracks and can clearly identify them, he begins to follow the track path and eventually can radio the team leader of what he has found. The team leader may decide to move up everyone to this location and advance the search. He might just to be sure, keep the original team on their track path until they reach the man who cut for sign and discovered the track path. He might repeat the cutting for sign process again hoping to gain time on the lost person.

This method can also be used when a clear track path is lost at a river or in difficult country. Perhaps a search team can reacquire the tracks of a lost individual by avoiding the obstacle and picking up the tracks on the other side by cutting for sign. This method can be tremendously effective in advancing a search or picking up time on the "victim" especially in the face of bad



A map and compass are necessary for the best systematic search.

weather or nightfall if the victim is very young. It does take personnel who have been moderately trained however. This type of activity is extremely good for a survival group to practice.

Night Tracking — Many people feel that this is impossible or above their ability. It is not! It does take practice. Have a person during the day lay down a track in good tracking country where a clear print is left. Bring in your team of beginning trackers that evening and let them find the track using the above methods, just before nightfall. Your trackers with a flashlight (a GI angle head flash works great) can spot tracks by keeping their flashlight just off the ground shining at the earth at about a 20 degree angle. The prints are actually cast into relief by the light and darkness combination. Many old cougar hunters use this method just before sun up to find cat tracks in the snow or mud using their truck lights.

In the right country night tracking can be easier than day tracking as faint tracks may stand out better. Remember, it is easier to sneak up on someone or a team at night, especially when they have flashlights on. If you are forced to track a person who is dangerous or has been abducted keep the flashlight away from your body. Have security elements at some distance from the tracker and in front of them. Instruct them not to look at flashlights or carlights so they do not loose night vision. Have an extra tracker to rotate the tracking duty.

Night tracking is strenuous on the eyes and back. Remember to keep rear security who've been warned not to be backlit by the tracker's flashlight. Only one flashlight should be lit and that is the tracker's. The spare tracker while not working can be personal security for the working tracker, keeping him from running into thorn bushes etc. Keep the flashlight away from your body so that if shots are fired they hit air or the light, perhaps saving your body. Someone should keep track of where the night tracking team is going, for it's easy to get lost at night when occupied by other things than navigation. Night tracking is really a team effort though one man can do it. To get good at it, practice.

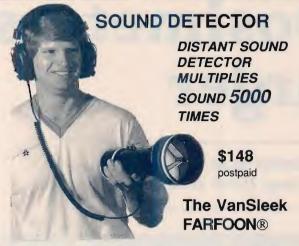
A few points to remember. A team

leader should be chosen who is not the best tracker but is able to make crucial and sometimes difficult decisions and live with them. A searcher once told me how on a search he had taken a right instead of a left on a deer trail. The child was never found. The next year on another search in the same place on the same trail he took a left instead of a right and found the victim of the previous year's search not 100 yards from the fork in the trail. The remains of the child were buried. Heartache and wrinkles come with responsibility. A little practice goes a long way!

Helping your local search and rescue team can be rewarding and an extremely valuable experience for you or your survival group — you do not have to reveal that you are survivalists. Learn the sole patterns of your survival group or family's boot wear. Even better, cut a distinctive notch in your group's boot heels and especially those of the young ones in your family. One of the toughest things as a tracker is trying to determine whether this track or that is the track of the missing person and not that of other searchers, hunters or children at play.

When you are vacationing or in remote country keep your children in a given area and watch them. Instruct your children that if they get lost to hug a tree. The sooner that child sets down the easier it will be to find him. Give your child a whistle (all kids love whistles) and make them keep it on their bodies while in the woods. If your child does get lost keep calm because that child's life is in your hands and rests on your level headed decisions. Make a sketch of the bottom of the lost person's shoe and pass it around to searchers.

Tracking is an art and a science. Some can be taught but most has to be learned through practice. It is worth you and your group's time to learn it. It may be the only means at your disposal to save a member of your family or a member of your survival group. Man tracking may also be the only way in a post holocaust world to track down something which has been stolen from you or to rid the world of a problem human. I know that if someone would harm one of my loved ones in such a scenario they had better watch their backtrail for a very long time!



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If you've got dosimeters, you need a good charger for them. The Dosimeter Charger Model 750-5 from Jordan Nuclear Company is a current U.S. military contract charger and is designed to charge most dosimeters, including those mentioned here. Each charger is fully transistorized and requires just one standard D cell battery to operate it and will provide thousands of charges from one battery. It's easy to operate and is moisture and dust proof. Charging takes only a few seconds. This model weighs two pounds. It's \$84.95 plus \$3 S&H (regularly \$145).

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A number of new entrees are available that can be bought individually. Ham and Potatoes are new MREs packed in 1989 and they are reported to taste quite good. Other entrees include: Beans in Tomato Sauce, Omelet with Ham, Spaghetti with Meat and Sauce, Chicken Stew, Potatoes Au Gratin, Meatballs with Barbecue Sauce, Chicken and Rice, Turkey, Diced with Gravy and Tuna with Noodles.

Vegetable retorts can round out a meal and now available at SI are six ounce portions that were made for a famous name in foods that then decided they did not fit in their line. Choose between: zucchini; onion and peppers; onion, mushroom, carrot and pepper; and carrot, peppers and Italian baby corn. All come in a delicious sauce and were made to be used over rice noodles.

There are new 1989 MRE Oatmeal cookies that make a moist and chewy treat and are great for trail snacks and deserts. The 1989 MRE brownies are just as good and are covered with lots of nuts and a thick non-melting chocolate. MRE applesauce also tastes great as well as the freeze dried fruit pouches. The fruit bars are so light that they are used by Long Range Patrols. Choose either peaches, pears, or mixed fruit.

While relying on MREs for a long term storage food reserve would prove quite costly, they are a good short term food supply used in 72 hour kits, two week supplies, and office preparedness kits. They store for five to seven years depending on the temperature and require no cooking or heating (they do taste better heated though).

For prices and more information on MREs contact: SI Outdoor Food & Equipment, 15600 S. Figueroa Street, Dept. ASG, Gardena, CA 90248; (213) 324-885 or 324-8859 or outside California call (800) 533-7415. ●

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Federal Ordnance:

Ranger Lite



Five shots fired from the Ranger from 25 yards using a rest. Ammunition was Winchester 230-grain ball.



Despite the lighter weight of the pistol, recoil is about the same as with an all-steel 1911A1.

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lightweight 1911A1

.45 pistol . . .

By Jim Benson

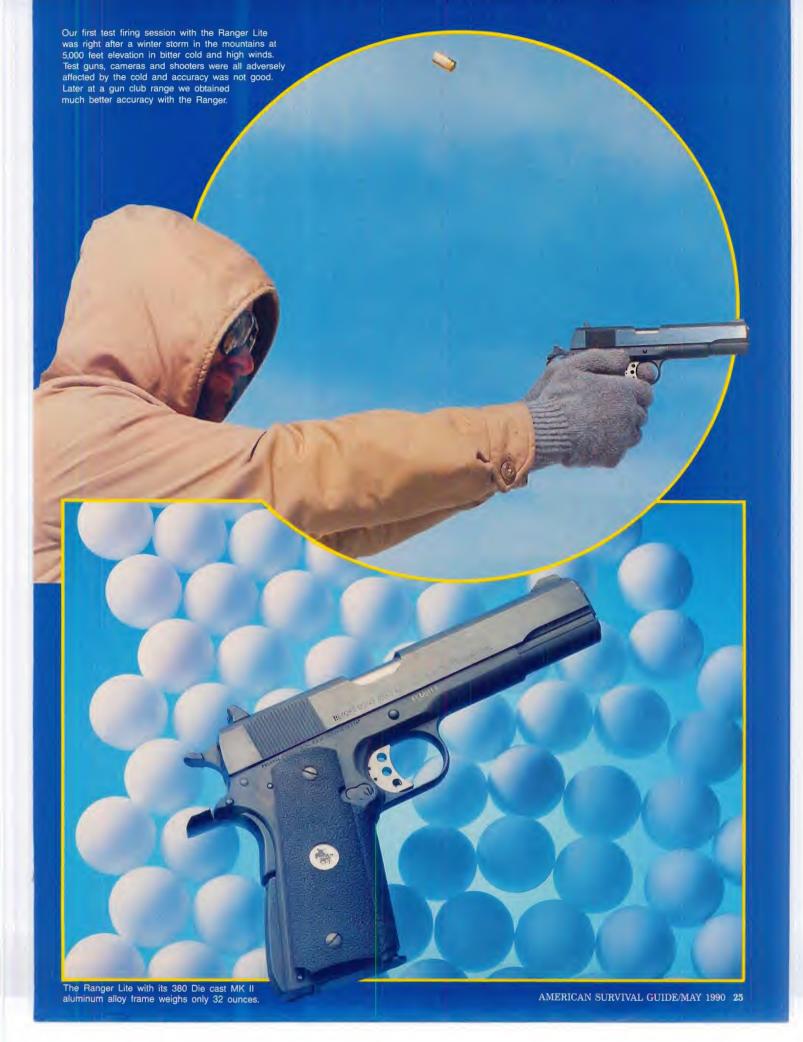
F EDERAL Ordnance's new Ranger Lite lightweight 1911A1 Government Model .45 pistol is the result of years of research and development.

Made to military specifications using modern CNC machinery, the Ranger Lite has a stress relieved die cast aluminum alloy frame and a machined 8620 high carbon steel frame. Fed Ord modifies the otherwise military appearance of this pistol by adding Millet high profile fixed sights, rubber wrap around grips, extended slide stop and magazine release, beavertail grip safety tang and a longer, lightened speed trigger. Trigger pull is consistent with government issue 1911A1s at about 6 pounds.

The overall weight of the gun empty is 32 ounces, about half a pound lighter than an all steel 1911A1. Fed Ord parts are interchangeable with government issue 1911A1s.

The lightweight 1911A1 has been a goal of Fed Ord's management for a number of years, following Fed Ord's purchase of Ranger Machine & Tool Company which made lightweight frames only for the 1911A1 .45 pistols. Fed Ord has been producing an all-steel Ranger 1911A1 since 1987. The Ranger Lite was introduced this year.

We obtained one of the first produc-





Energy Independence

How to produce and store electrical power. . .



By Geeta Dardick

"I'M a true believer in alternative energy systems," explains Jon Hill, an engineer who owns Integral Energy Systems in Nevada City, California. "When you buy energy from power companies, you give up freedom. If you break the cycle and make your own power, you increase your ability to be truly independent.

truly independent.

Customers who shop at Integral Energy Systems come from all 50 states and 35 foreign countries. They include persons living on rural acreage beyond the power lines, vacationers who travel in Recreation Vehicles (RVs) or boats, urban residents who prefer alternative energy systems to conventional utility power, as well as hikers who like to toss a folding solar panel into their backpacks or quadriplegics who use panels to recharge the batteries in their electric wheelchairs.

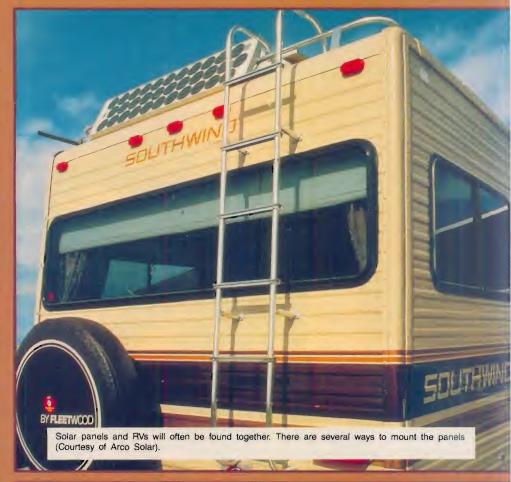
Jon Hill's 83-page booklet called The 1989 Electrical Independence Guidebook and Catalogue features solar electric panels (also called photovoltaic panels) in all sizes and shapes, as well as the batteries and inverters they power. Hill also sells wind generators, woodstove hot water heaters, small hydroelectric systems, propane refrigerators, solar-powered water pumps, solar hot water panels, and many other unusual products (like 12-volt answering machines) that offer viable alternatives to conventional utility power. Plus he markets a full line of books for students who want to learn more about alternative technology.

Solar Panels — Although many people seem content to pay monthly electrical bills to commercial power companies, it is quite possible today to power all of your appliances through alternative sources of electricity.

One of the best systems is solar panels which allow you to harness the sun to provide your electricity economically, efficiently, safely and silently.

Solar panels are made up of silicon cells. When sunlight strikes the silicon, a flow of electricity results. This current can be used to run an appliance directly (and is used this way for some solar water pumping applications); however, to power appliances in a household, RV, or boat, it is preferable to store the electricity in batteries so that you can use the power at night or in cloudy weather.

When you use solar panels, the



You can live miles from the nearest power pole and still have all the appliances you need by using

solar panels (Courtesy of Arco Solar)



Energy Independence

amount of electricity you can produce and store depends on three variables: the size and number of panels you own, the storage capacity of your batteries, and the hours of sunlight in your particular location. Besides your panels, you may also want to have a backup generator/battery charger in order to charge your batteries on days that are overcast. This can be a savings in the long run, because you won't need to size your photovoltaic system for worst-

case weather conditions.

How many solar panels you need is directly related to the number and type of appliances you want to run. When Ben and Gladys Eckhardt, retirees from northern California, travel





in their RV, they carry one solar panel to run a 12-volt (DC) system that includes: lights, black and white TV, the fan motor in the range hood, and the bathroom fan. However, at the Eckhardt's remote house, three hours down a dirt road on the Baja Peninsula in Mexico, they have an eight-panel array on the roof.

That's because their at-home electricity use is much larger: numerous kitchen appliances and power tools, plus a color television, water pump, and refrigerator. "Solar power is like magic," says Eckhardt. "It allows you to stay in the wilds as long as you want."

To size your own system, you'll want to work with an alternative energy systems supplier. But let's just say you happened to stumble across a 30-watt, 2.0-amp panel. How can you know exactly what it might do for you?

The answer is partially determined by the amount of sunlight in your locale. You can consult a map of average peak hours of sunlight per day within the United States. Presuming you have six hours of sunlight available, you can simply multiply six hours of sunlight times 2.0 amps to determine that you will have 12.0 amp-hours available each day.

Will your 30-watt panel be able to run a 15-watt light bulb and a black and white TV? It's all determined by how long you want to run these appliances, and the amount of sun in your area.

Remember, your panel receives six hours of sunlight per day. How can you know if you will be able to watch TV for two hours in the evening, and then read a book by the light of your 15-watt bulb, for the next three hours?

You can set up your problem this way:

APPLIANCE	AMPS	X	HRS. USED	=	AMPS- HOURS
15 Watt Light	1.3	Χ	3.0	=	3.9
TV (b&w)	1.4	X	2.0	=	2.8
			TOTAL	=	6.7

Once you know the total amp-hours you will use per day — in this case 6.7 — just divide that by the number of amp-hours produced by your panel in your location, which was 12.0.

Since you are only using 56 percent of your capacity at present, you can make a daiquiri with a 12-volt blender, too (Blenders draw eight amps, but you'll only be running it a few seconds, so there should be no problem).

Battery Storage - In alternative

energy production, batteries make up the core of your system. Your goal is to have batteries with large capacities and keep them charged. Don't even consider using a car battery, it simply isn't adequate. Instead, you'll need to purchase deep cycle batteries.

Standard marine or RV deep cycle batteries can be hauled into the woods (or in and out of boats) because they have handy carrying handles. But they are rather lightweight for a home power system. For the same price per battery, you should consider a pair of six-volt golf cart batteries, which come in various sizes.

If you want a higher quality (longer lasting) battery, buy an industrial battery, the type used in electric fork lifts. They come in many sizes as well, and will last for about 15 to 20 years. Although costly, in the long run they will prove less expensive than golf cart batteries (that might last only four years). And finally, if you could find some used nickel cadmium batteries, you'd be in terrific shape. These will last 30 to 50 years, but are prohibitively expensive if new.

Whatever batteries you put into your alternative energy system, you'll need to treat them with some care. You don't want them to overcharge or undercharge, or become too hot, too cold, or too dry.

To keep batteries from overcharging you'll need to use a voltage regulator in order to shut off the charge when your batteries get full. Also, you want to keep batteries from getting too low because they can build up a crust on the plates called sulfation that will reduce their efficiency. A low voltage battery sensor can be installed to show you when your batteries are low (a light could flash), or simply shut the load off for you.

Batteries prefer room temperature of 78 degrees. If they get too warm (over 90 degrees) they may not last as long; and around freezing, they lose one-third of their capacity. You should try to keep your batteries relatively warm, unless you have a high charge constantly coming in. Keep them insulated in a box next to the house. You can also keep them inside the house as long as you vent them outside. Remember, they give off hydrogen which can be extremely dangerous.

What's Right For You? — You can start out with a gas-powered generator/battery charger to charge some batteries, as your basic bottom-line alternative energy system. Next you

should add solar panels in order to convert the sun's energy into power that you can store in your batteries. Or, if you have a windy site or a flowing stream, you can also hook up a wind generator or waterwheel to produce the power you need (perhaps in conjunction with solar panels).

Whether you live in an urban or rural setting, you should consider producing your own power so that you can be completely independent from the commercial power companies. But what kind of system do you need? Simple or elaborate?

Everyone who reads this article will have different electrical needs. The type of alternative electricity system you will want to develop will be based on two primary variables: your electrical consumption (lifestyles) and your geographical location (sunny? windy? flowing water?).

Before designing an alternative electricity system, you'll need a general idea of the amount of electricity you want to produce. Perhaps you live in a small cedar cabin in the woods. For you a DC system that could run a few lights, the stereo, and television would probably be adequate. Or you might own a 6,000-square-foot home, and want to run everything from jacuzzis and microwaves to shop tools and computers. Regardless of your lifestyle, any appliance that runs on electricity can be powered in an alternative fashion. The only limits on electrical output will be your own budget.

As you think through the appliances you need to use, please realize that some appliances could prove costly in an alternative electrical system because of the volume of current they will draw. For example, to keep you warm during the winter, it's definitely more cost effective to choose wood heating systems over electrically powered heat. For the same reason, many budget-minded individuals tend to buy propane refrigerators which are more economical to run in alternative systems than standard AC refrigerators.

Your water pumping needs can also produce a large load on your alternative system. If your well is over 225 feet deep, you'll need a jack pump which costs more than a submersible pump and also draws a lot more electricity.

Your preferred cooking system is another item to ponder. You can power a microwave with two to three solar panels and be totally independent. But perhaps a propane stove is a cheaper alternative.

The simplest alternative energy sys-

Energy Independence

tems, and those with which you may be most familiar, are straight DC or 12-volt photovoltaic systems. People who drive RVs use these systems frequently. You mount a couple of solar panels on the roof of the RV, and viola! You can run a 12-volt hair dryer deep in the forest.

But according to Jon Hill, many 12-volt appliances, although adequate, are not nearly so reliable or inexpensive as their 110-volt counterparts. Says Hill, "Why pay \$85 for a single speed DC blender, when you can buy a higher quality, 12 speed AC blender for about \$25?"

Hill suggests that anyone seriously interested in alternative power use a modified sine wave inverter, which he calls the heart of the home power system. An inverter lets you make 110 and 220 AC power out of DC battery power. "Inverters have gone through a lot of changes in the past five to ten years," says Hill. "They now have extremely high efficiency at lower prices."

Hill says that a 2,000-watt inverter will run most appliances people would use in a typical home, although not all of them at once. "If you want to iron while you run your jacuzzi and microwave, you might need a 5,000-watt inverter," explains Hill.

Whatever system you choose, it should be installed with an expanded scale digital volt-meter that tells you how much charge you have left in your batteries, as well as an ammeter to tell you how many amps are going into the batteries. That way, if your panels (or water wheel) aren't functioning properly, you'll know it. Also, it's a good idea to put a second ammeter on the load side, so that you can tell how much power you are using. That way, you could be alerted to shut off some of the lights if you are using too much juice too rapidly. You'll also need a backup generator to charge batteries in bad weather (or some other backup power source like a water wheel) because the sun isn't always going to shine. And don't forget to buy a high quality battery charger (some inverters have these built in).

Buying, Installation — When you shop for panels, you'll note that there are three main types: single crystal, poly-crystal, and thin film. Jon Hill recommends single crystal or poly-crystal panels for most installations.

as they are sturdy, rigid, and will last 20 to 30 years. Thin film panels are lightweight, flexible, and bulletproof, but they won't last as long. However, you might want to consider thin film if you needed to haul them a long distance (Or you can always consider moving your panels by llama as students and faculty from Colorado Mountain College did on a recent solar installation in the Rockies).

Installing a solar system in an RV is simpler than making a home installation. You can use brackets to anchor the panel to the roof joists, and run the wires down the refrigerator or plumbing vent to connect them with the battery. You can tilt the panels on the RV roof, but in the long run a flat panel is probably just as efficient as a tilted panel, because you won't always park pointing the same way.

Ben Eckhardt prefers to carry his panel inside his vehicle and take it out when he is stopped. Eckhardt installed a plug that runs to his battery. He plugs the panel right into the side of his RV after he sets up camp. Sometimes Eckhardt stands his panel on the ground, but he prefers to place it on top of the roof. "The reason I like to lay my panel up on top," says Eckhardt, "is so no one knows it's there."

One problem with mounting your panels at the side or top of a vehicle, is that you have to park in the sun to generate electricity. This can get you too hot, too fast. By using a long cord (up to 85 feet using number 12 wire) you can place panels away from a vehicle, and generate electricity at a distance. That way you can park in the shade.

For a home system you can buy special photovoltaic mounting structures that you can put on the roof of the house, or on the ground. The tilt is adjustable, and they are typically designed for wind load of over 100 miles per hour. You can also get a track rack, which will increase output up to 43 percent over a fixed system.

It will pay off if you buy your solar panels and other alternative energy products from an expert in solar energy, someone who has a great deal of experience in the field. Although your bill will list panels, inverters, batteries, and wire, you are also buying that person's expertise in helping you size your system correctly and decide what you really need. You are also paying for long term "free" advise on instal-

lation and maintenance of your entire home energy system.

Jon Hill, who uses an eight-panel solar array in his own remote home, says that alternative energy dealers need to thorougly understand basic electricity and actually use photovoltaic systems so they can give customers the information they need. Explains Hill: "When people buy a system they are also buying an information service, and it needs to be a high quality one."

It also might prove very helpful to read up on solar electricity or even take a short course in the subject. At Colorado Mountain College in Carbondale, Colorado, there's a year-long photovoltaics and energy conservation class that includes weatherization, greenhouse design and construction, solar air heating, solar water heating, and photovoltaics. Or you can opt for a two-week, hands-on summer class that focuses entirely on designing and installing solar electric systems.

At first alternative energy may sound like a complicated topic, but your diligence will pay off. The independence you will gain in having your own power system is well worth the effort and dollars you will spend. Electrical freedom is a worthwhile goal that you can start focusing on today.

Readers interested in receiving *The 1990 Electrical Independence Guidebook and Catalogue* should send \$4 to Integral Energy Systems, 105C Argall Way, Nevada City, CA 95959. Or they can call Jon Hill directly at (916) 265-8441 to ask questions about particular alternative energy needs.

Hill's catalogue lists many books which will be helpful to readers wanting to study photovoltaics in more detail.

Practical Photovoltaics by Richard Komp. Contains a lot of technical information on PV and new developments in the field, plus detailed instructions for making small solar panels. 181 pages. \$16.95

Solarex Guide to Solar Electricity, by the Solarex staff. All about photovoltaics from the only U.S. manufacturer. 144 pages. \$7.95.

How to Design an Independent Power System by Terrance Paul. Nine rules to help the reader select inverters, batteries and chargers, 123 pages, \$6.95.

The New Solar Electric Home—The Photovoltaic How-To Handbook, by Joel Davidson. The author is a pioneer in PV system design, 404 pages, \$19.95.

The Solar Electric House: A Design Manual For Home Scale Photovoltaic Power Systems, by Steven Strong. A thorough manual for designing and installing solar electric systems. 276 pages, \$19.95.

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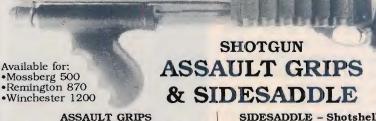
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Australian Enfield Rifle

The venerable S.M.L.E. NO. 1 MK III military rifle. . .



By Jim Benson

S OME of the Enfield rifles of this type have been around since before the turn of the century.

The Short Magazine Lee Enfield (S.M.L.E.) No. 1, Mark III rifles in .303 British caliber were used in World War I. World War II and even the Korean War by regular military forces. Some were seen in the hands of rebels fighting the Soviets in Afghanistan. A sniper variant was used by British troops in Northern Ireland in the 1970s.

The John Jovino Co. Inc.(5 Centre Market Place, Dept. ASG, New York, NY 10013; phone 212-925-4881; FAX 212-9664986—ask to speak with Sales Manager Robert Seligman) has imported a considerable quantity of these

10-round detachable magazine fed, bolt action military surplus rifles from Australia and they are now available for sale to the American public.

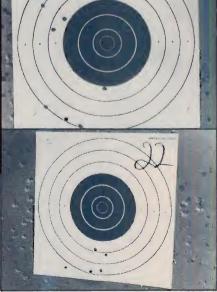
Purchased from the Australian government and made in Australia, the rifles are available in three grades of quality: very good to excellent condition, like new condition (such as the sample shown and tested here), and a limited quantity of new condition (refinished).

The machinery used to make these rifles was made in the U.S. and proofed by Colt Firearms in the early part of this century, according to John Jovino Sales Manager Robert Seligman. He said the quality of these Australian Enfields is such that the tolerances are far superior to any of the other Enfields of this type made elsewhere.

The Australians, he said, took much better care of their Enfields, generally, than was provided by other governments and as a result, these guns are in excellent shape.

There is a lot of history behind these weapons, and although there wasn't time to do extensive research on them in the brief period that we had and tested our sample rifle, you can tell that it's seen some use for many years by the markings on it, and yet it's practically new, as far as I can tell. The bore and rifling appeared to be in excellent condition and the stock (probably Australian Coachwood) is in (Continued on page 36)





Benchrest shooting with the Enfield yeilded these groups on targets 100 yards away with the very first shots fired.

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- 9' blade, 13 1/4" overall
- Solld brass guard
- Black micarta handles
- High quality black leather sheath

FOX #685 N.E.K.

A modification of the #684 which tends to give a Bowie appear-ance. This knife is being used by the Italian Navy in helicopters as an emergency knife.

This knife has a sleek design as well as sturdy construction and includes these features:

- 8% blade 13% overall
- Solid brass guard
- Black micarta handles
- · High quality black leather sheath

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Australian Enfield Rifle

(Continued from page 34)



The rear leaf sight has a U notch and is adjustable for ranges out to 2,000 yards. Front blade sight is protected by wings.



The 10-round staggared box magazine can be loaded with stripper clips while in the rifle or removed from the rifle and loaded separately.



The No. 1 MK III's muzzle with bayonet mount.



The Australian Enfield was a pleasure to shoot but it's heavy, weighing over 10 pounds when loaded.

fine shape as well.

The rifle is on the heavy side compared with modern military rifles, weighing in at about 9.5 pounds with empty magazine. Overall length is 44.5 inches and the barrel is 25.2 inches long. This turning bolt firearm utilizes a staggered 10-round box magazine



Some of the markings on the rifle.

that can be fed by stripper clip from the open breech or removed and loaded by hand.

The rear sight is a folding leaf type with U notch, adjustable for elevation and distance to 2,000 yards. Front sight is a windage adjustable blade with protective "ears" or wings.

The metal parts have a gray nonreflective parkerized finish and all metal and wood on our test gun are as good as new. This piece has been well preserved. As I said earlier, it's rated as a like new condition.

If this is like new, I'd love to see new condition. The .303 British round is powerful and compares roughly with our modern .308 Win. (7.62 NATO) round. We obtained a bandoleer of surplus military .303 rounds in stripper clips from Federal Ordnance, Inc. (1443) Potrero Ave., P.O. Box 6050, South El Monte, CA 91733; 818-350-4161), which has quite a bit of this stuff along with all kinds of other military surplus firearms, ammunition and accessories obtained from sources around the world. We found this ammunition worked perfectly in our test rifle and we recommend it. The .303 ammunition is fairly commonly available in this country as military surplus and new commercial product and reloading equipment is also available.

At a nearby rifle range we set up some targets at the 100-yard range and proceeded to bench rest test fire the rifle. There's considerable recoil, despite the weight of the rifle, but nothing particularly uncomfortable to deal with unless you're going to be firing for hours at a time. We were surprised to find how easy it was to shoot this rifle and how accurate it is. Our very first groups were 6 inches and 4.5 inches. Operation was flawless and smooth. This is one very reliable and accurate gun!

In our estimation, the Australian S.M.L.E. No. 1 MK III rifles, if this one is typical, are an outstanding lot and would be excellent for hunting, target practice and even, if needed, for self defense. An owner's manual is being prepared for the rifles but was not available with our test piece.

Top quality construction and materials, excellent accuracy and reliability. These are features we look for in the firearms we test and this gun has them all. We were asked not to give suggested retail prices for these rifles as they will vary according to the dealer who has them and the grade you desire, but from some dealer prices we were quoted, the prices of these rifles are very reasonable. Ask your gun dealer about them or contact Robert Seligman at the John Jovino Company for more information.

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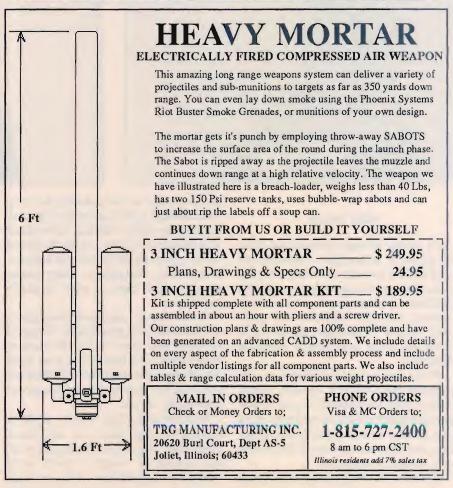




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Emergency Food Rations

U.S. Coast Guard approved rations for high-stress emergencies...

Vanilla flavored ration (left) provides 3,600 calories for three days. The chocolate flavored ration contains 2,700 calories in nine squares.

A chocolate flavored ration square provides 300 calories and does not provoke thirst



We found the rations tasted somewhat like shortbread cookies.





Staff Report

In many emergency/survival situations it is possible to become cut off from the benefits of civilization. Be it an automobile break down, a hiking accident, a plane crash or a boating mishap, the only help you will probably receive is through the preparations you have individually made in advance.

While food is not considered an immediate need after a survival crisis, it does play an important role in the psychological aspect of recovery. Food can have a calming, pacifying effect, and provides reassurance to the victim of a stressful situation.

However, the food that we normally

eat everyday is not suitable for long term storage, and even some of the survival foods such as MREs, freeze-dried and dehydrated foods cannot be stored for long periods in places like automobile trunks, lifeboats or other places prone to high heat or high humidity conditions.

Coast Guard approved emergency food rations are specifically designed for these extremes (-20 to 140 degrees Fahrenheit) and have a five year shelf life. Packaged in waterproof plastic/foil pouches, the rations are pre-measured and ready to eat.

Another important feature of these rations is that they are not thirst provoking. They can be consumed without having to "wash it down" with water for assimilation. They provide

a fine balance between protein, carbohydrates and fat, leaning more on the carbohydrate side.

NITRO-PAK is offering two types of rations. The first unit provides 2,700 calories for three days per person and is divided into nine squares (300 calorie meals). This unit has a chocolate flavor and costs \$8.95 plus \$2.95 shipping or for a case of 10, \$85.95 plus \$8.50 shipping. The second unit is vanilla flavored and provides 3,600 calories in four separate bars. This is also a three day ration for one person and sells for \$9.95 plus \$2.95 shipping. A case of ten costs \$95.95 plus \$8.95 shipping. Contact: NITRO-PAK Survival Foods & Supplies, 13243 E. Rosecrans Ave., Dept. ASG, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670; (213) 802-0099.

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Utilizing an ambidextrous thumb stud for one hand opening allows immediate access to Air-Sog's™ stainless steel bowie blade and awesome cutting power. The sleek, molded, glass-reinforced Zytel® handle is checkered for passenger comfort and control.

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to an old problem...to produce a quality field knife that can be owned reasonably. A field knife has some of the most rigorous demands placed on it as it must serve in all environments, be called upon to perform a most diverse variety of functions, and be lightweight for ease of carry. Here is why our GovernmentTM passes the bill:

The all stainless steel construction insures the capabilities to penetrate dense jungle, withstand frozen tundra, or serve in a marine environment equally as well. Our tough, pliable Kraton® handle with wrap around checkering is compatable with and provides the finest tacky grip in ice environments with gloves or in wet, slick conditions. The short crossquard quarantees a barrior between hand and blade but at the same time allows for a forward finger position when extra pressure or leverage is required. The steel pommel which is bolted on, enables the knife to be a field hammer.

The razor sharp edge in combination with the reinforced tip are reason enough why our Government is a world leader in innovation, aside from the fact that it is the lowest priced knife in its jurisdiction.

The SOG-Government is history in the making. It is an innovative solution

with tw with an ami in openin razor : sleek fo steel constructio tactile raised point series delivers

> An advanced d nylon scabbard comfortable ret

Specifications:

Blade 6 1/4" x . 180" Overall 1114" RC 57-58

Black leather ambidextrous scabbard

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Our new Pentagon™ sets the policy for action. Sometimes you just never know what kind of situation you might come across. Whether it is having to cut someone out of a seatbelt, opening a stuck door, or trying to get home through a blacked-out city, the Pentagon™ promotes confidence.

The 5" stainless steel blade offers the user the instant choice of a serrated or bevel edge combined with a reinforced tip. The dual thumb notches on the blade along with the sleekly flared out Kraton® handle provide optimal control in any circumstance. The Pentagon is housed in a black leather scabbard that utilizes an advanced clip for a variety of mountings.

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Blades

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e SogwinderTM | & II strike home rand new features, a drop-point bowie style blade combined xtrous thumb stud for ease hese knives "Zero In" with p blades that fold into the nt. Featuring all stainless and the most aggressive adle, the SogwinderTM the of the art payload less of environment.

mounting ballistic sures secure and on of your knife.

Specifications:

|Sogwinder | |

Blade 2¾" x .160" Overall 6¼" RC 57-58 Optional scabbard

Sogwinder II

Blade 3¾" x .200" Overall 8¼" RC 57-58

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The SOG-Tech™ series is the choice of the outward bound in the 1990's. Come aboard!

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Specifications:

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SOGTechTM II

Blade 7¼" x .250" Overall 12¼" RC 57-58

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Our products utilize timeless designs which give the user maximum capability and performance in virtually every situation. The magical feel of our knives has become a trademark, perfectly balanced and sculpted for fit so that the blade does the work as if on its own. Our products are designed for the professional, sportsman, hunter, militarist, outdoorsman, survivalist and collector... or anyone who can appreciate precision cutlery at its finest!



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Mechanic Wins Year Food Supply

Two week emergency kit, Special Ops Tanto, Sabot Cannon. stun guns also given away...

Staff Report

OHN Dorman, a 26-year-old mechanic from Foley, Alabama, won the first prize in ASG's 1989 Giveaway No. 3 contest, the Survival Incorporated Year's Supply of food with real meats.

Prize No. 2, the NITRO-PAK 14-Day Emergency Kit, was won by Ralph Figueroa, an electrical technician from the Bronx, New York.

Terry Ahlgren, a self-employed resident of Buena Park, California, won Prize No. 3, the Special Ops Tanto knife from Cold Steel, donated by The Cutlery Shoppe of Boise, Idaho, as well as The Defensive Edge, volumes I & II, on knife fighting by Ernie Franco.

Prize No. 4 is the AirPower Sabot Cannon air gun from AirPower Sabot Cannons. It was won by William Smith, a die caster from Conneaut, Ohio.

Anni Muirhead of Walla Walla, Washington, was Prize No. 5 winner. She won the Defender Pro-40 and Scorpion stun guns, the Dog Guard dog attack repeller and the electronic Mosquito Repeller, all from Personal Electronic Protection Services.

See this issue, pages 52 and 53, for details on entering ASG's 1990 Giveaway No. 2 contest.

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MACHAX is the American-Kukri hybrid which marries the incomparable weight distribution of the Ghurka favorite with good American spring steel and a handle designed for comfort.

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MACHAX istough. It has a full tang 1/4" thick 4140 chromemoly blade with Zvtel™ scales.

will give you the edge when - • cutting and splitting wood • constructing shelters • clearing fields of fire • camoflaging vehicles and fighting positions • building blinds • dressing out large game

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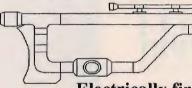
As long as we are in business we will replace a broken blade without question—ALTHOUGH! we want to know how you managed it. If you manage to scrape the scales off we will either fix'em for a nominal charge or for free —if you have a good story.

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format as our current lable of Contents. The years 1982 through 1985 were listed last month. Each December issue will now contain an index for the preceding year. — The Editors	NOV	• HBAB Sporter AR-15 • Glock 17	Conflux Shoes Getaway Vehicle Spando-flage Solingen Steel Banana Magazines	• Serra Tek	NATO NBC Training Wideness Living Private Armies	Iuning the World Survival Kits Charcoal
itors	OCT	• S8W Proker Pretois • Michell Arms • AK. 22 • Riot Shotguns	Wolf Ears EK Commando Knife Gun Safe Israeli Gas Masks Demon Crossbow Survival Knives Winter Pants	Survival Attitudes Choking Five Phase Food Storage	Missing Kids Hurricanes Home Shelters Boundary Country	Learning to Fly Survival Kits
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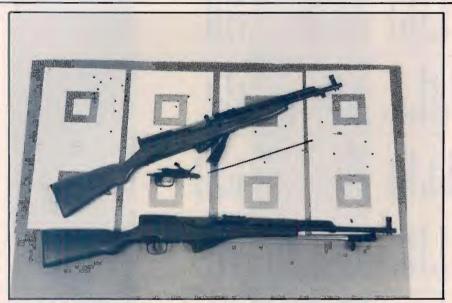
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lex 198	APR	• Fed Ord .45 ACP • FIE Titan .36 • Soout Rrite 1.26 Tanker/Recon	Road Stars Tirdent SOG Knife Seeping Bags Utility Tailer Kits Parkas So Hour Candle	Hard Core Foraging AIDS	• Timeless Yurt • Onoda Saga • PLO • Survival Horse	Crystal Radio Disaster Prodring Cars Earth Ovens
Survival Guide Index 1988	MAR	• Poly Tech AK-47 • FIE Deringer • Iron Mountain Bowie	Razor Wire Spoulight Emergency Radio AK Pouchas Compass, Clock Radiation Delectors Swiss Army Knite (Champ)	Kitchen Cuptoard Heddine Hypothermia 7 Day Supply Walking for Life	Executive Protection Protection Survival Avalanche Awareness	Shortwave Listening Combat Hand to Hand Fighting Ghille Suit
	FEB	• Model TS-45 Argun • SIG AMT Rifte	MagSale Ammo Heaters, Lanterns	Nature's Harvest Home Gardening Vitamin A	Southwest Oregon Tirident Submarine Mass Casualties Ham Radio EMP and Cars Robinson Crusoe Progotilus	Backyard Plant Foraging Shoret-up Igloos Qustom 45
Surviv	JAN	• HB AK-47, M-59 Rifles • Snubnose :38s	Army Individual Nutli-purpose Survival Shelter Stun Guns Solar Flashlight	Home Canning Storage Foods Shock Teatment Hypothermia Victims	Base Operations School Pirate Fighters Volcano Rescue Australian Outback Ultralight Aircraft	Cattails Pocketrile Delense Barter for Survival
	1	MEVBONS	СЕАЯ	HEALTH & FOOD	ENAIRONMENTS	SOT-WOH

	DEC	Sig Sauer P220, P228 • S&W M85 357 • Maurader MK-1-A Knite • S&W M13 357	Infrared Nite Site Aluminum Rifle Cases Executive Edge Knives	Radiological Transport Accidents Accidents Supply AIDS: Alarming Reality Food tradiation	The 2nd Amendment Shield: SDI Mountain Experience	Preventing Cold injuries Using Dynamite
	NON	o Colt Officer's Ellie 45 • Taurus Model 66 357 • M1 Garand 30-06	Startight Night Vision Soope • Water Tech Bucket Filler Purples Intruder Detection Unit • VIP Armored Cars • SOG Knives	Media Pavlorian Conditioning American Red Cross	Will the Constitution Survive? Ozone Controversy Face Off. USA vs. USSR Defending Finantins Finantins South Africa	Fitness through Running Ice Rescue
	ОСТ	Springfield SAR-3 SSW Model 36 Revolver Modified Kubodan Norinco Makarov	Survival Vests Hidden Difference Holser PLS 500 Laser Rifle Snap Sling Chemical Clean- Up Suit Ammo Vests Ammo Vests	Escape Breathing Device Survival Candy, Cardons Assisting Childhirth Lead Poisoning	Sky Diving Safety Theta Blast Cell Development of Nuclear Weapons	Backpacker Stores Shortware News Broadcasts
	SEP	Defonics Series II Servicemaster MI Carbine Ruger Mni-14	Hand Cranked Generator Polar Pure Water Filter Noninco Ammo SNS & AK Recoil Pads Nuclear Anticontamination Suit	Environmental Illness Responding to Nuclear Accidents	Carvas Tents Hightly Poisonous Spidens Spy Satellites	Home Food Dehydration Preparing for Recession
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	JUNE	AMT Automag II 380 FNC Assault Rifle Springfield Armory 1911-A1 9mm	Scorpion Stun Gun FAL Rifle Parts Si's 72 Hour Pack	While Mushrooms Skin Cancer Medicinal Herbs	Iravel Survival High Risk Hiking Bring America to Her Knees	Ham Radio Field Day Burgar Proof Your Home
68	MAY	• IM Desert Eagle 41 Magnum • Beemanfkrico Sniper Rifle	Survivaid Smoke Hood Hittenberger Ammo, NASS British Falklands Jacket PRA II Evac Surt Survival Inc. 14-day Emergency Kit	AlDs: Quo Vadis?	Solar Power Systems Solic Progress vs. Politics Seeing in the Night	New Ham Radio Novice License Inner City Gardening
lex 198	APR	SIG 550 SP Rifle MB70 Police Shogun Machine Guns	Reador Survival Tool Kit Infrared Perimeter Alarm Rivis Precision Air Rithe Load Bearing Vest	• Flood Poisoning • U.S. Shake Bike First Aid	Shortwave Radio Raciosivers Satanism & Ferrorism	Snow Shelter Back Tracking Pine Resin Torch
Survival Guide Index 1989	MAR	Delonics Servicemaster 45 Dragunov Sniper Riffe AK 84s, 223 Grendel P-10, 380	Emergency Lights Nary Rescue Strobe Light Battery Test Portable Security LightMarm EMT First Aid Kit Delta Raider Knife	Rock Medicine	Arctic Survival Gas, Germs, Terrorists Soviet Millary Carnouflage	4x4 Driving Tps Surveyors Beehive Fine Fording Streams and Rivers
	FEB	Cott Python Salv 886 Norinco Tokarev	Glock Spade Rad Gum Water 1 Glardia Filter Wellowhorse, Spyderkey Knives	Healing Words Hypnosis Water Purification Systems	Protection from EMP International Tavel Risks Viden River Soloum Gas, Germs, lerrorisks Vietnam Posters	Be Your Own Forecaster Snowsthoss for Survival Trapping for Fur, Meat
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		MEVBONS	CEAR	HEALTH & FOOD	ENAIRONMENTS	SOL-MOH

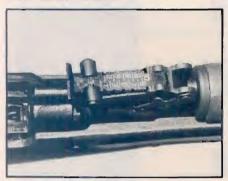
GSAD:

Chinese Type 56 Rifles

Not too accurate but passable & smooth operation...



Our test rifles and carbine produced reasonable 100-yard groups for military arms. The trigger mechanism "unplugs" easily for field maintenance. The cleaning rod illustrated is stowed beneath the barrel.



Rear sights are leaf type, providing elevation adjustments, but nothing for windage.



A semiauto, that first round is chambered by pulling the bolt handle to the rear and releasing it



The bayonet on our test rifles folds out from underneath the barrel and locks onto the muzzle as shown.

By Bud Lang

IN these days of high prices it's refreshing to find long guns that don't cost an arm and leg, and that's

just what we have here: a trio of rifles that are not only inexpensive to buy but use ammo that is equally inexpensive.

What this all boils down to is guns that just about anyone can afford to

own and use. That being the situation, how can anyone knock such a deal? The answer is they can't.

The guns were're speaking about are some rifles manufactured on mainland China for various military units. According to the importer, unlike the American military, the Chinese don't necessarily manufacture one type of rifle for all units. The different provinces produce rifles of similar types, but stock materials and even small features may vary between provinces. The guns featured herein are all military rifles, not civilian versions for export, but they are not select fire or full-auto, so they're strictly legal for civilian use in this country. Better yet, because their magazines hold no more than 10 rounds, they're not even classified as "assault" rifles by the anti-gunners.

What guns are we speaking about? The Chinese Type 56 rifle and carbine, which are versions of the Soviet Siminov SKS45, a standard assault rifle. The Chinese version is also chambered for the 7.62 X 39mm cartridge. The SKS hasn't been used by first-line Soviet units for years, and is available as both a rifle and carbine. Unlike the U.S. carbine, this latter version was not intended to replace handguns. It was intended to be used as the tactical equivalent to the U.S. M1 or M14, however.

The rifles come with a folding spike type bayonet (not the carbine), whereas the Russians models use a blade type bayonet. Don't know what civilians would do with a bayonet, but they come with the gun and give it that true military look. Being small and of the folding type, it's really insignificant and doesn't get in the way.

One feature you'll probably like about this piece is that a cleaning rod is located just under the barrel. You're never without it and if you're the type of guy who likes to put a few hundred rounds through the gun while out plinking, you can easily clean and lube the bore occasionally to retain some semblance of accuracy and preserve the gun's bore.

The guns are relatively easy to field strip for interior maintenance, too. After swinging the bayonet downward and removing the cleaning rod, you rotate the receiver cover retaining pin (located at the right rear of the receiver) upward; then, pressing on the receiver cover with the thumb of the left hand, move the pin to the right as far as possible, and remove the cover from the receiver. You'll find

the recoil spring assembly is a packaged unit like that of the AK, and can be easily removed from the bolt carrier assembly.

At this point you can remove the bolt and bolt carrier from the receiver by pulling back on the bolt handle. Now you can remove the bolt from its carrier.

Take a look at the right side of the rear sight and you'll find the gas cylinder tube lock lever. Using your right hand, rotate the lever upward until it's stopped by the upper wall of the cutout in the rear sight base. Now you can lift the gas cylinder tube and the handguard assembly a bit and pull them to the rear. The gas piston will now slide from the gas cylinder tube.

To assemble the rifle, simply follow these steps in reverse.

As our guns came from the importer, they were liberally coated with a protective grease. It's recommended you field strip them as outlined and wipe away all surface grease with a lint-free cloth, then use a gun solvent on all components to clean them up. At this point you should lube all moving parts with a good gun oil. Relative to the bore and chamber, they, too, should be cleaned thoroughly. When you can run

a patch through the bore and it comes out clean, then add a touch of oil to the patch to lightly coat the bore surface. Whatever you do, don't "oil" the bore and chamber as it's not necessary.

Both rifles and the carbine are imported by GSAD, 630 Maryann Drive, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 (phone —213-374-4086), but they're available only through licensed dealers. Anyone interested in one or more of these type 56 semiautos should have their local dealer contact GSAD. We can't quote suggested list prices because every dealer won't necessarily give you the same deal. But believe us, the prices are quite reasonable.

Like other rifles of this type, the type 56 is chambered for the 7.62 X 39mm Russian cartridge. During World War II the Soviets made greater use of the submachine gun than any other country. According to the book, Small Arms of the World, Russian infantry massed with large armored units found the firepower of the PPSh41 and PPS43 submachine guns extremely effective. Out of this experience came the requirement for an assault rifle. N.M. Elizarov and B.V. Semin developed an intermediate cartridge, the M43 7.62 X 39mm, for this purpose. Ironically,

the first adopted weapon to fire this cartridge was the SKS45 self-loading carbine. This same round is used in many of the rifles and carbines in the Soviet sphere.

After cleaning our pieces, we visited a local range with a quantity of imported Chinese ammo, likewise very inexpensive, and had a go at 100-yard targets. We found the trigger on one rifle quite smooth for a military piece, while the other two were "standard," or acceptably rough. While the sights can be adjusted for elevation, you're stuck when it comes to making windage corrections. This proved to be no problem, however, because we were shooting at no distances beyond 100 yards.

While the type 56 and its 7.62 X 39mm cartridge have a range beyond this distance, it's not recommended simply because they aren't sniper rifles. They weren't developed for long range accuracy, so why waste your time and ammo. Our five-shot groups averaged between six and eight inches shooting off a bench rest. Not too accurate, but in a military setting where most of the troopers aren't marksmen to start with, these groups are passable. Need we say more?

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These binoculars have an advanced optical system that has been computer

Three models that never need focusing and a sound amplifier. . .

Staff Report



designed to be in perfect focus from about 40 feet to infinity. No more fumbling when passing them back and forth to friends. They're always in perfect focus.

If you've ever wondered what the numbers on different binoculars stand for, let's start with the compact model number 191. These camo colored binoculars are rated at 7x21mm. The 7x means that they magnify the object you are viewing 7 times larger than you would see it with the naked eye. The 21 means that the objective lens is 21mm in diameter. As a general rule, the larger the diameter of this lens, the greater the light gathering power, or "brightness." The 191 has a relative brightness of 13.5.

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The PERMA FOCUS 2000 model number 195 is a black rubber coated binocular with a field of view of 578 feet at 1,000 yards. They're rated at 7x35mm and made of sturdy polycarbonate/graphite composite. Relative brightness is 37.5.

The model 206 is camo colored and rubber armored like the compact 191, but this is a powerful set of optics —10x50mm. Field of view is 393 feet at 1,000 yards and relative brightness is 37.5.

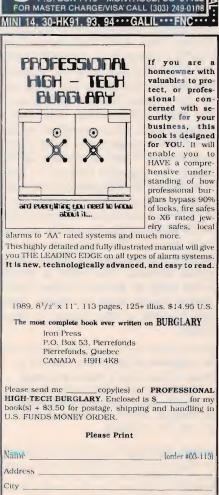
Each pair of binoculars comes with a soft nylon case and strap, protective optic dust caps, lens cleaning cloth and instructions.

Another interesting item from Jayson is the Discovery Sound Amplifier. It amplifies sound by up to 50 decibels and works at distances up to 200 feet. A good nature study item.

For more information on Jayson products contact your local dealer or write: Jayson Empire Inc., P.O. Box 14930, Dept. ASG, Overland Park, KS 66214 or call (800) 255-6366. ●











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Prize No. 1

The new Ranger Lite lightweight 1911A1 .45 ACP Pistol from Federal Ordnance, Inc., Dept. ASG, 1443 Potrero Ave., P.O. Box 6050, So. El Monte, CA 91733; (818) 350-4161. The Ranger Lite represents years of research & development incorporating recent advancements in die casting to create the strongest lightweight frame Fed Ord has ever produced. Machined to exacting tolerances by state-of-the-art CNC equipment, this new pistol offers the accuracy and reliability of the all-steel Ranger 1911A1 at the weight of the Officers Model 1911A1s. The frame is die cast 380 MK II aluminum alloy and the slide is 8620 steel. Total weight is 32 ounces. The sights are Millet high profile fixed type. The gun features an extended grip safety, thumb safety, slide release and magazine release, lightened speed trigger and wrap around rubber grips. Comes in a lockable plastic case. Retail value is \$465.

Prize No. 2

The Black Mamba battle-utility knife and Mini Mamba knife from Blackjack Knives, Dept. ASG, 7210 Jordan Ave., # D-72, Canoga Park, CA 91303; (818) 902-9853. The new all-black version of the famous Mamba is the same size as the original Mamba and made of the same CS-51 carbon steel but is totally coated with non-reflective Kal-Gard 7200, making the knife highly rust resistant and increasing cutting ability by reducing friction or drag. The custom Mini Mamba has a 41/2-inch blade with full-tang construction of ATS-34 high carbon stainless steel alloy at 58 Rockwell hardness. The stylized half guard is 304 stainless and the hand contoured handle slabs are blackgreen micarta. This knife is totally hand made by Master Custom Knifemaker Kougi Hara in Japan. Total retail value of the knives is about \$370.

The recipient of this prize must be a citizen of the United States and must be 18 years or older. The recipient must be legally able to receive and possess this firearm. Proof of residency and age may be required.

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Prize No. 3

The Reeveshooter Military Vest from R.E. Reeves, Inc., Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 500, Pittsburg, KS 66762; (800) 84-VESTS or (316) 231-0532. This is a combination ammunition vest and backpack. It's made one-size-fits-all and fits close to the body or can be adjusted to fit over bulky winter gear. Made of heavy duty nylon and using quick-release buckles, the vest is available in camouflage colors or black. Ammo pockets are available for AR-15, 9 mm or 7.62 magazines. Value is \$120.

Prize No. 4



Marauder MK-1-A knife from Blackjack Knives and available through Catoctin Cutlery, Dept. ASG, P.O.Box 188, Smithsburg, MD 21783; (301) 824-7416. The MK-1-A is the military attack version of the MK-1 knife which is patterned after ancient knife designs from Europe and the Mediterranean. Made of 400 series stainless steel, the blade is specially heat treated and cryogenically treated for extra edge holding ability and strength. Blade is 9½ inches and overall length is 14% inches. Handle is textured Kraton in olive drab color. Comes with high grade leather sheath. Worth \$90 retail.

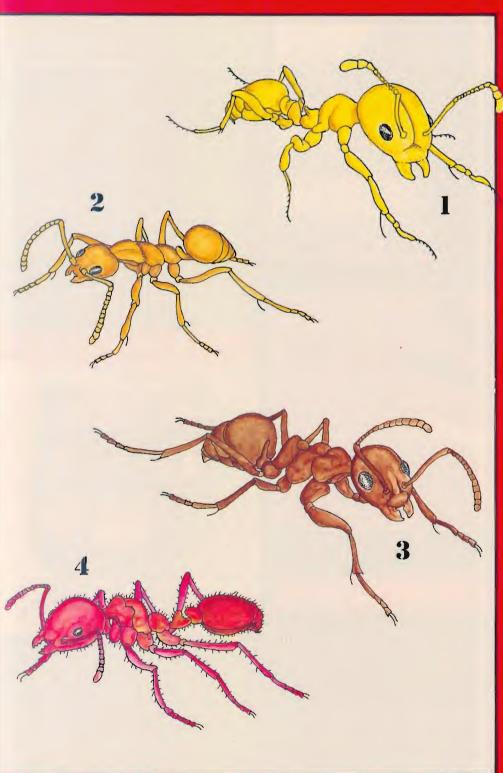
Prize No. 5



NITRO-PAK's Medic First Aid Kit. Comes in a lockable, sealable plastic fishing tackle-type case. Ideal for a family or group of people. This kit contains essential first aid items for a wide variety of emergencies. It's lightweight and compact and easily transportable. Retail value is \$60. Available from NITRO-PAK Survival Foods & Supplies, Dept. ASG, 13243 E. Rosecrans Ave., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670; (213) 802-0099.

Ants

Entomologists are beginning to refute long-held myths concerning these tiny creatures...



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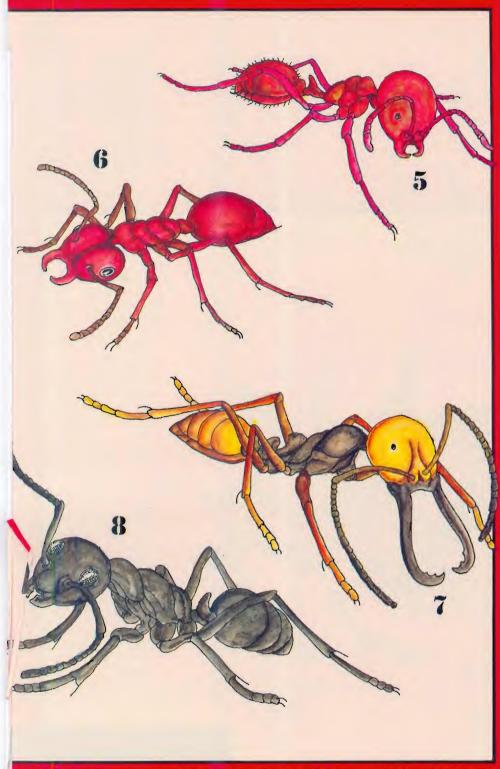
THE sting is slight, so, often, it goes unnoticed. In seconds there's an all-over burning sensation, intensely felt in the palms of your hands and the soles of your feet, your eyes and genitals.

Apprehension is followed by nausea and a throbbing in your temples. Your face swells grotesquely, especially the lips, and your eyelids may puff shut. Large hives appear and breathing is labored. Symptoms reach their peak in 10 minutes, and you can be dead in 15. If you live, the symptoms can torment you for four to six hours before they gradually subside.

If you're susceptible to anaphylactic shock and you're stung by an insect, you may just have read a description of your reaction. If you guessed you were stung by a wasp or hornet, you'd be wrong. The cause of your torment was the mildly venomous Big-Headed Ant.

The Big-Headed Ant ranges throughout the eastern United States — from New York south and westward to Nebraska and Arizona. Despite its mild sting it is a species frequently guilty of causing allergic reaction. How such a small creature (over a million of them would weight less than an average teenager) can generate material of such toxicity is more of a mystery than why it should need it.

While not many think of ants in terms of stinging, explanations become a little clearer when we realize that they are closely enough related to bees, wasps and hornets to belong to the same order — Hymenoptera. Hymenoptera venom contains peptides, proteins (apamine, melittin and kinins), enzymes (phospholipase A and B and hyaluronidase) and amines (histamine and 5-hydroxytryptamine). The mixture is potent enough that a miniscule amount — one two-hundredth of



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a teaspoonful diluted to one part per 100,000—can trigger an allergic reaction. No theory has been developed to explain this high level of potency. As humans we have the sort of chemical composition that is most affected by the specific blend of the elements in these insects' venom.

We feel betrayed hearing of this level of toxicity in ants. Aren't ants

the little guys who amused us as they scurried about in their ant farms? Didn't they make us laugh at their comical antics? Weren't they always held up as exemplars of cooperation and industry winning the day? Contemporary entomologists are beginning to refute some long and dearly held myths concerning these tiny creatures.

First of all, the ant may not be such

a paragon of virtue in the field of productive labor. Greater scrutiny reveals that much of an ant's day is spent in idle grooming, social fraternization and other such non-productive activity that used to go unnoticed in the general helter-skelter of ant life. It also appears that many just go off to the side sometimes, fold their legs and lie down for a nap. On the darker side scientists are now beginning to suspect the humble little ant may be a predator of far greater significance than previously suspected.

On one level such predatory activities can be extremely useful to man when the ants' prey consist of destructive larval and adult plant pests. But predation can bring grief and woe for the helpless and defenseless In their roles as merciless hunters and scanvengers they are often the first to reach and exploit the site of a new development or opportunity in their range. Many doctors are questioning the ant's culpability in the ant-chewed remains of some abandoned babies.

Opportunism seems a byword to this family of insects. They've seized their chance on the odd boat or plane for migration far beyond the bounds any lifetime of scuttling, no matter how frenzied, would have taken them. Modern transportation has virtually opened the world to ants. And America, long renowned as the land of the immigrant, has welcomed more than its share.

In 1890, the single most significant migrant came to New Orleans on a coffee shipment from Brazil. The Argentine Ant, as it is known, is small (.04-.12 inches), even for an ant. But what it lacks in size, it more than makes up for in numbers and ferocity. There is no more effective ant at killing and driving out other species. It has a unique form of attack. It wins even against species who have larger, more formidable soldier workers (now called majors) with massive, crushing mandibles. The smaller, always more numerous Argentine Ants will circle the individual enemy. Suddenly on one side an Argentine Ant will rush forward and seize the tip of an enemy's leg, extending it. In a flash another darts in to bite off the leg at the joint. The tactic is swiftly repeated all around the doomed creature until it lies a legless, helpless hulk to be dismembered by one Argentine Ant and carried off at leisure.

As much of a tiger as the Argentine is in its own world, it poses no instant threat of harm in human encounters.

It has no sting and the bite is felt as feeble at best. It does, however, pose a long term danger. It has a tendency, perhaps due to the colony's great numbers, to scramble about everywhere, easily bringing contamination and disease vectors from refuse to food and utensils. It also injures plants by distributing its livestock of aphids, mealbugs and scales everywhere. The live-

but went unheralded among the native species of fire ants. There were important differences between the homegrown fire ant and the new boy on the block.

The first noticeable difference was the Import's ant hill. The two natives, the Southern Fire Ant and the Fire Ant, inhabit moderate to large mounds of loose soil. The Import builds a 15-to the Import and the natives is the heightened aggressiveness that characterizes the Import's behavior. When the anthill is disturbed, the Imports literally swarm out of the nest to defend it. A typical colony may contain 25,000 Imports intent on maintaining the home guard. The Import's belligerency also carries over to foraging and feeding habits. The result is an increased



stock insects are kepts, guarded and tended for their tasty secretions — known as honeydew — a habit even more developed in other ants.

Fire Ants — But of all the different imported species, the one that has caused the greatest stir is the Imported Fire Ant. It came from Uruguay or Argentina and was first isolated in Mobile, Alabama, in 1929. It had almost certainly been there longer

36-inch anthill that rises out of the ground like a foam of dark earth or a burp of lava. While it may not be quite as hard as lava, it is more than hard enough to damage combines, threshers and other sorts of agricultural machinery. Even the mowers used to cut roadside hay have been seriously damaged when running into these anthills. It is possible for as many as 60 mounds to infest an acre of land.

The next radical difference between

mortality among wild and domestic animals, particularly newborns. Because quail's reliance on camouflage for protection leads to close nesting habits, they suffer greatly from the Import's predation. Both nestlings and adult quail have succumbed to the Imported Fire Ant. A true omnivore, this ant also revels in young, succulent vegetables.

Perhaps the most notable difference is the increased potency of the Import's

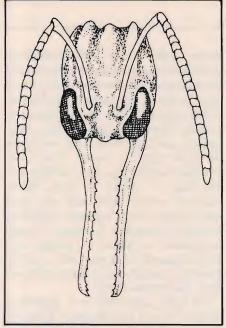
sting. The domestic varieties, especially the Southern Fire Ant, have long been known for sharp stings, sometimes killing baby birds and mammals themselves. The Import, however, has raised the ante in pain and hazard markedly. The potential for a lethal human encounter here need not depend on the victim's allergic reaction to the sting.

All ants are capable of biting you. They bite with the curved pincers, called mandibles, mounted on the front of their heads. The results can be lackluster, as with the Argentine Ant or truly sharp, like the bite of the Black Carpenter, one of our biggest ants at nearly half an inch in length. The Black Carpenter has no sting, but its bite is nearly as painful as many stings.

Some ants, such as the California Harvester, bite and sting. This ant can make a real nuisance of itself at planting time. The Imported Fire Ant takes the worst it can do and refines it by clamping its mandibles into your skin and then stinging a circle around the bite. This turns encounters with each individual Import into multiple incidents of wounds with blister-like pustules around each bite.

Actually, there are two types of Imported Fire Ant. In Alabama in 1945, scientists discovered a "red variation" to the known darker, blackish-red type. Apparently the red Import immigrated from Central America. It has proven to be more vigorous and aggressive than the darker sort and is now dominant.

Treatment — To ease the pain of ant bites, the Navajo chew the stems of snakeweed and broom snakeweed to a pulp and then apply the poultice to the wound. Zunis for centuries have mixed the dried and powdered petals of saltbush with their own saliva to produce a salve for ant stings. In an



Head of Hong Kong Jumping Ant, Harpegnathos venator, a great leaper and vicious stinger.

emergency, they will crush the fresh flowers of the saltbush and apply the crushed petals to the sting. One folk remedy to keep ants out of the house is to plant mint and tansy at your doorstep. Such folk remedies merit consideration. Scientists at Cornell University have discovered that a nearly extinct variety of mint found in Florida releases "trans-pulgeol" when an insect bites into a leaf. Even the smell from a cut leaf will repel ants feeding nearby, sending them scrambling away.

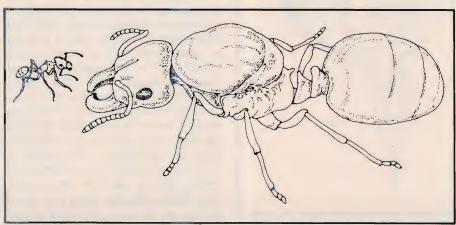
Modern man has become dependent on science and bottled, chemical solutions. People who are hyper-allergic can be de-sensitized to specific venoms. Unfortunately, such processes are not universally successful. Some unlucky persons suffer from what is known as cumulative sensitivity. Whereas most people would develop some immunity after suffering recurrent stings, people with cumulative sensitivity become increasingly allergic. In one case a young man was stung at the age of 18. He suffered cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea for four days. At 20 he was stung once more and again suffered. At 21 he was stung for the last time — he died of the violent convulsions.

You can carry some medicines with you to alleviate symptoms. Ten milligram isoproterenol tablets to be placed under the tongue and an adrenaline inhaler are helpful. One of the best medications particularly for those who are prone to allergies is a self-injectible dose of epinephrin. It can be carried in a pen-sized tube that injects the dose when the top is pressed. If you do carry tablets or syringe or inhaler, use that medication immediately, before you are disabled by rapidly swelling tissue that can block oral and nasal passages.

If you do not have medication, you can apply a tourniquet between the sting and your heart to slow the passage of venom. Be careful that you do not cut off circulation and be sure to loosen the tourniquet every three to five minutes. If the ant has left a stinger embedded in your skin, scrape it off. If you try to pull it out, you may inadvertently inject more poison. Cool compresses and calamine lotion can soothe the itching as can a cool bath with a cup of baking soda dissolved in the water. You may also secure some relief from over-the-counter antihistamines, but be sure to read the label directions before taking a pill, particularly if you will be driving or operating machinery.

Getting rid of ant infestations is no easy task. Ants are extremely hardy and toxin-resistant creatures. The ant can withstand about 10,000 times the amount of radiation lethal to man. But there are insecticides that will suppress infestations. Since new pesticides are being developed continuously, be sure to check with your nurseryman or county agent for information on the most effective and any attendant dangers to wildlife.

There are two classic methods for poisoning ants. The first involves the use of a bait. The bait itself should be made with an attractant like soybean oil. Any good, fatty, greasy oil will work for ants love fats and greasy substances derived from both plants and animals. You'll also need to use a binding agent such as bran or corncob grits. The insecticide — mirex is a good, old



Comparative difference in size between minor worker and queen in Marauder Ant, *Pheidologeton silenus*, native to Asia.

one — is added to the bait in accordance with the package directions and mixed in thoroughly. The prepared bait should then be left close to the hill, nest or known paths of travel.

The second method is to apply the poison directly. Typically, the insecticide is applied in a diluted, liquid form. Direct application is most effective when the poison can be insinuated into ant holes and raked and stirred into the hill's debris.

Imported Fire Ants pose special hazards for those who seek to poison them — especially for those who plan on applying the poison directly. The Imports swarm rapidly out of the hill to protect the colony, remember? A typical colony contains 25,000 aggressive fire ants ready to sting and bite in self defense.

You'll need to wear protective gear while you're breaking apart that hard, crusty hill. High-topped rubber boots are best. A thick band of mentholated petroleum jelly around the boot top may serve as a repellent to keep the ants out of your boots. Be sure to tuck your pants legs into your boots. You'll also need to wear long sleeves and tuck the cuffs into the gloves or tape the gloves shut over the cuffs.

Always keep a first aid kit with medications for bites and stings nearby in case the ants penetrate your defenses. It is also a good idea to have a helper along if for no other reason than to watch for and remove any ants.

There are more than 15,000 species of ants worldwide. Many have undergone surprising adaptations to carve out survival niches in a hostile world. The Cornfield Ant, common throughout North America, has no sting but will spray the area it bites with formic acid from the tip of its abdomen — proof that Grandpa's tale about the pissant was a lesson in natural history.

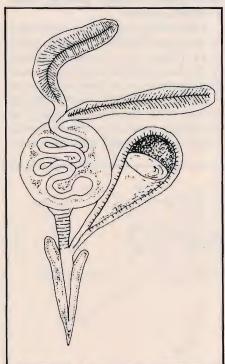
A large black Jumping Ant from Hong Kong makes prodigious leaps to land on or near its prey. It then uses its elongated mandibles to hold even dangerous prey a safe, distant captive as it stings it to death.

The Smaller Yellow Ant found on the East Coast and the Midwest sprays formic acid from a huge reservoir in its head. The acid contains citronella to facilitate and speed the acid's penetration of the skin. When disturbed, the Smaller Yellow Ant exudes the scent of citronella.

Army Ants — The most mystifying and terrifying of all ant species are the Army Ants. They are known the world over. In South America they are called Army Ants; in Africa, Driver Ants; and in Asia, Marauder Ants. In their rampaging path, pythons, semi-comatose as they digest a recent meal, and tethered horses have been stripped to the bone in a matter of hours. These ants are nearly blind and rely upon scent trails of one another and their scouts for direction. So strong is their compulsion to follow the leader that if their march is turned into a circle, they'll go round and round in that one spot until they perish.

All army ants live in a repetitive cycle of march and bivouac. Recently scientists have learned that this cycle is keyed by the reproductive cycle. When the larvae the army carries on the march pupate, they no longer need to be fed, and the march is halted. During the bivouac the queen is shielded by masses of workers and in this protected position lays more eggs. When the pupas hatch into hungry larvae, the colony renews its march for fresh food.

Every ant colony has three types of ants — usually sterile female workers, a reproductive female — the queen — and winged, reproductive male drones.



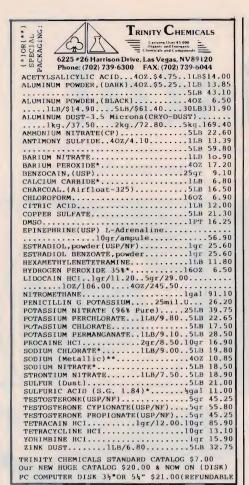
Idealized ant venom apparatus. Stinger mechnisms vary widely and many experts think evolution is phasing them out of existence.

Like the honeybees, the ant drones mate with the queen and die. Queens have been known to live for 20 years and workers for 10. In many species the workers have evolved into different forms according to their role in the colony. In Army Ant species they have evolved into small ants employed as scouts and general workers, medium size ants that serve as guards around the march perimeter and huge, fierce soldiers with great tusks of mandibles to rush forward and rend apart large prey. When two like species meet, only the smallest workers fight for right of way. The medium and larger soldiers remain aloof from the fray as if too valuable to lose in such frivolities. The Army Ants are among the most awesome and justly feared predators wherever they are found. All animals flee at their approach. They have been known to cause vast stampedes.

Not many people know that there is an American form of the Army Ant. It's widely distributed from Oklahoma and Arkansas to Texas and Louisiana. The Legionary Ant, as it's called, travels in the typical cyclic pattern of march and bivouac. But there are differences. The Legionary Ant seems more truly blind. And in travelling it constructs a protective cover of cut leaves which the workers key together in a convex form so that it won't collapse on the column. On march it resembles a miniature, undulating, rustling covered road.

These ants bite and sting fiercely, killing chickens and small pets. Such capabilities would seem to put unattended infants at risk. Legionary Ants bivouac under logs and rocks and defend these rest areas viciously.

Few deaths from ant bite or sting are recorded in the United States only four from 1950 through 1959. But many doctors believe that a number of cases attributed to heart attack would prove to be something else on closer examination. Not a few experts believe they have good news for mankind concerning ants. After studying modern ants and fossil ants and noting how many species are using the sting in a secondary role, employing it for such alternative activities as egg laying, digging and even wood boring, they deduce that the sting may be on its way out in ants, becoming as vestigial as our appendix and finally disappearing.





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Staff Evaluation



DESIGNED and manufactured in the United States, the Intratec Tec-22 semiautomatic pistol operates by blowback and works best with standard .22 LR high velocity ammunition.

It is made of steel and reinforced nylon components and has a matte black finish. The front post sight is adjustable for windage and has protective wings. The rear sight is a square notch adjustable for elevation with protective wings also. Sight radius is 6.5 inches.

The 4-inch long barrel of our test gun is threaded at the muzzle and the muzzle is protected by a nut that easily unscrews. The Tec-22 is available with either threaded or unthreaded barrels.

The gun is shipped with one 30-round magazine and an owner's manual in a locking black plastic case. Overall length is $11^3/16$ inches and overall height is about 6.5 inches. The gun weighs 29 ounces unloaded.

There is an ambidextrous safety and cocking handle, making this firearm more appealing to the left-handed shooter. The slide type safety blocks the hammer and trigger.

Disassembly for cleaning is simple and straightforward. With the gun unloaded, you grip the top of the receiver with one hand and press the disassembly button at the top rear of the receiver and lift the receiver cover up. You then remove the bolt assembly by lifting it up and out of the receiver, complete with latch (disassembly) button. This is all the disassembly recommended for normal cleaning. Reassembly is in reverse order.

In test firing the Tec-22 we found it does not feed hollow point ammunition well and frequently jammed. Our hollow points were some Winchester high velocity and CCI Stingers. The Stingers worked the best. On the whole, the hollow points were not intolerable, but Intratec recommends only standard .22LR high velocity ammunition (high velocity is needed to cycle the action) with round nose bullets be used in this gun. The manual states that truncated head ammunition, those with a sharp angle in the nose (hollow points) will tend to jam.

Other than our problems with the hollow points, however, we were pleased with the performance of this little .22. Its high-tech looks indicate it is well made and its shooting ability proves it is. We obtained very good accuracy firing at targets 25 yards away and using a bench rest.

The Tec-22 Pistol is a high quality, accurate semiautomatic. Suggested retail for the threaded barrel model is \$217.95 and for the non-threaded barrel model \$201.95. For more information contact Intratec, Dept. ASG, 12405 S.W. 130 Street, Miami, FL 33186. ●



This group was fired from 25 years using a rest.



Ambidextrous cocking handle is gripped from the top with either hand



Front sight is adjustable for windage and the rear sight is adjustable for elevation.



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The Zytel Clipits have an integral clothing clip on

Staff Evaluation

ANY of you are familiar with Spyderco's renowned Clipit line of lockback pocket knives. These knives are unequaled in their design, quality and performance.

Now Spyderco has introduced lightweight models to their Clipit line of patented one-hand opening knives: the Endura and the Delica.

The handles are made of extremely tough, very light Dupont Zytel and have Spyderco's "volcano grip" checkered texture on one side for a sure hold and an integral clothing clip (made for right-hand opening only) on the other side for attaching to pockets or other parts of clothing.

The blades are made of the same strong G-2 Chrome Molybdenum high carbon stainless steel found on other Clipit knives and are available with Spyderco's famous Spyderedge serrated edge or plain edge.

Besides being light, these knives are more compact than other Clipit models. The larger of the two, the Endura, has a blade with a 3½-inch cutting edge and overall length opened of 8.75 inches (4.75 inches closed) compared to the similar Spyderco Police Clipit with a 4-inch cutting edge and overall length open of 9.5 inches (5.5 inches closed). As for weight, the Endura is 2.72 ounces compared to the Police Clipit's approx. 6 ounces. Quite a difference in weight which you immediately notice as you carry the Endura about in your pocket.

The Delica weighs just 1.76 ounces

and has an overall length open of 6.63 inches (4 inches closed). An ASG staff member who regularly carries a Spyderco Clipit Police or Mariner knife with him tried out the Endura and Delica and found them to be every bit as strong, sharp and useful as the other Clipits he owns while noting the considerable difference in weight. "It's like they're not even there in your pocket," he remarked after carrying both knives for a few days.

The lighter, more compact Endura and Delica are ideal for personal use every day or as kit knives for emergency use in the home, auto/truck, bugoutpack or backpack. Suggested retail for the Endura is \$39.95 and for the Delica is \$34.95. See them at your knife dealer's or contact Spyderco, Inc., Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 800, Golden, CO 80402; (800) 525-7770. ●

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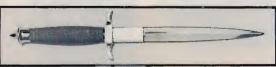
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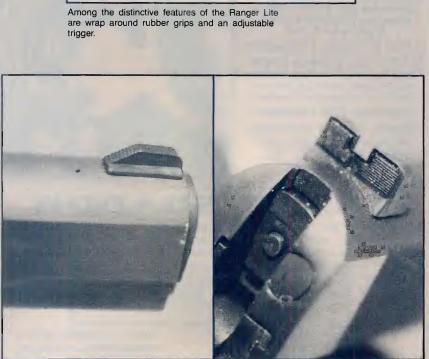
(Continued from page 24)

tion Ranger Lites as a test gun for testing. This is the same pistol we will be giving away as the top prize in our new 1990 Giveaway No. 2 contest (see pages 52,53) but the winner will receive a brand new pistol which has only been test fired at the factory. The gun will be shipped in a padded, lockable plastic case.

Our first test shooting session with the Ranger Lite was just after a winter storm in the Southern California mountains at high elevation and in bitter cold and high winds. All our test guns that day, our cameras and the test shooters were adversely affected by the cold. The Ranger Lite functioned perfectly during test firing but our accuracy (firing from a standing position without a rest) was not good. We think this was due to the cold, because a few days later at a local firing range, we had excellent accuracy firing from a bench rest at 25 yards from the targets.

Once again, the test gun functioned perfectly. At the first firing session we tried a few hollow point cartridges in the Ranger Lite and it would not feed them, jamming up every time. This is to be expected in a mil spec gun which can be modified to handle hollow point ammunition fairly easily.

Switching back to standard 230-grain military ball ammunition we experienced no problems whatsoever. With its black anodized frame and blued slide, black wrap around rubber grips and other distinctive features, the Ranger Lite is a handsome new addition for those who favor the 1911A1 pistols.



The Ranger is made with Millet high profile fixed sights.

Action/operation . . . semiauto/blow back

Ranger Lite: Tech Specs

aluminum alloy frame; 8620 steel slide

Weight, empty 32 ounces Lengths: Overall8.75 inches

Barrel5 inches, hammer forged rifling, 6 groove, L.H., 1-in-16 twist ..5.75 inches

Overall height... Sights Millet high profile fixed Sight radius6 inches Price, suggested retail \$464.95 Manufacturer,

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Staff Report

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The Gunny Sack with its interchangeable holster and rapid draw tear-away release system is an innovation in concealment holsters. Available for \$49.95 plus \$3 S&H (specify holster size) from DeSantis Holster & Leather Goods, Dept. ASG, 149 Denton Ave., New Hyde Park, NY 11040; (516) 354-8000.









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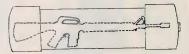
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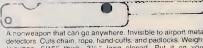
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THIS IS A CONFIDENTIAL listing of survivalists who wish to become known to others of like mind. American Survival Guide will accept properly coded mail and forward it to the coded addresses without charge. American Survival Guide accepts no responsibility for the contents or results of these confidential communications. Mass mailings are not permitted.

ASG 0501

East Peoria, Illinois. I am a 27-year-old male with a desire to become survival qualified. I have a certificate of U.S. Army Basic Training, but need to recondition body and mind. I am dedicated and motivated. Would like to correspond with well informed individual or survival group. I am interested in training myself. I am serious in my quest for training knowledge. I believe in God, the USA, the family unit and being prepared.

ASG 0502

United States. Team of professional security specialists/survivalists would like to network with others. We are concerned with the future of our country and our world. Security ops and covert ops are our specialty. Please no Rambos, gays, nazis or communists. All serious inquiries will be answered.

Colorado Springs, Colorado. Young survivalist in early 20s interested in hearing from others in the same age group in the American Southwest. I am trying to form a single survivalists introduction service to those who are interested.

ASG 0504

United States. National Directory — Singles, families. Monthly newsletter. Exchange of ideas. No drugs, religious fanatics, commies or Rambos. Please include

ASG 0505

Northeast Texas. Would like to hear from others interested in forming a group. Women welcome. I teach survival and hand to hand combat. Must be low profile

ASG 0506

Pittsburg/Southwestern Pennsylvania. Survival oriented individual seeking like-minded people for exchange of information and possible training. No extremists, please.

ASG 0507

Vernon, Connecticut. We are a group of survivalists who are willing to exchange ideas and information on various topics such as outdoor survival, civil crises, nuclear/mandmade/natural disaster, civil defense from terrorism, etc. Prefer low-profile and those with knowledge and willingness to learn about the above topics or any other topic related. Please, no religious radicals, left-wingers or communists, nuts or nonserious replies. All serious replies will be answered.

ASG 0508

Northwest, Oklahoma. Small military-like group forming. Would like to contact other groups around the U.S. Imformation exchange or ideals. Ages 14-20 please. No racists, commies, druggies, gays, religious fanatics, crazies or Rambos.

Belton, South Carolina. Would like to correspond with other survivalists in my area. I would like to exchange ideas and information with others who are interested. All letters answered.

Coastal California. Family looking at corresponding, networking with others. Legal system going downhill fast. Racists and Rambos save your paper.

Eastern New York State. Single male survivalist, 27, wishes to communicate with individuals or groups in the tri-state area. I am also seeking members to join

my small group. Please write, including background information and photo (if possible). My specialty is mountain survival. All serious inquiries will be answered.

ASG 0512

Dversburg area, West Tennessee, I am a single 21-year-old male and I am in a survival group located near Dyersburg. We would like to make contact with survival groups or individuals in West Tennessee or anywhere in the U.S. We have just about everything covered, from computers and electronics down to guard dogs, weapons and all of the basics. However, we believe the friendship with other survivalists is one of the greatest assets of all. No troublemakers, nuts, gays, etc.

ASG 0513

Hampton, New Hampshire. A young 15-year-old male is seeking information on topics such as self-defense, living off the land, shelter building, etc., or any other information involving groups that will accept someone my age. It is hard to be taken seriously at this age, but I am.

ASG 0514

Vandalia, Illinois. Low profile professional survivalist couple looking for group of like minded individuals. Share information and skills; possible group formation. Only serious minded individuals or families need contact. No Rambos, bigots, radicals or non-Americans need respond. Skills include EMT, weapons, self defense, technologies and machining experience, gardening and clothes production. All skills necessary.

Eastern South Carolina. Planning a nuclear fallout/blast shelter to support 12-30 pro-Americans to be built before 1994. Needed computerwiz, ace mechanic, and medical personnel for this group. Would also welcome any advice/suggestions for the shelter. We currently have sketches, ideas and area decided. We would like to hear from others who would be interested in being a part of our group. No gays, commies or druggies.

East Texas. Have just moved to East Texas. Would like contact with survivalists in area, especially Christians. Will reply to all, except racists.

Spring, Texas. Scorpio Group must make contact immediately.

Pittsburg, Kansas. Christian survivalist wanting to contact other survivalists. I am president of the Pittsburg Christian Survival Group. Not a fanatic. I love my country and its constitution. Pro Americans only. No gays, commies, racists, atheists, or Muslims.

Address response letter as follows:

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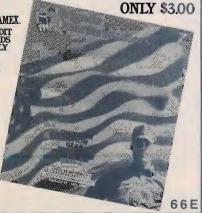
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Unloading the Defender

In reading the article on the USRAC Winchester Defender shotgun in your February 1990 edition, I noted that the author recommended unloading live rounds from the magazine by cycling them through the action. Considering the number of accidental discharges that have taken place around the country and over the years when police and military issue shotguns were unloaded in this manner, I feel that a safer method should have been outlined, as follows: Hold the shotgun with the left hand around the barrel and magazine tube just forward of the receiver with the shotgun on its side, loading port to the right. Reach into the loading port with the right thumb and depress the shell stop (located on the left side of the receiver wall) and let the shell that is released push your thumb back. Remove the shell and repeat the procedure until the magazine is empty. After the magazine is empty (easily verified visually), cycle the action open to ensure the chamber is also empty. As far as I know, this procedure will work with all pump action shotguns. I realize that the photograph accompanying the article in question shows the shooter using his trigger finger to depress the disconnector (no finger near the trigger) but, please remember Murphy's Law, "Anything that can go wrong, will." In addition to being a safer method of unloading, the shells do not have to fall on the ground where they can be damaged or lost. They are always under control of the hand used to release them from the magazine.

Walter C. Speake, Jr. Tacoma, Washington

Pornographic Ads?

I find your magazine and articles straight forward and easy to read. When I turned to page 23 of the February 1990 issue I was quite shocked to see the advertisement. I had let down my guard, then, wham. Pornography is a major part of the break down of society and one reason for survival magazines in the first place!

Paul Finch Ashland, Oregon

We don't consider this ad to be pornographic. However, we are aware it was offensive to some readers and we will not be running it again.

Libertarian Party

As a member of the NRA and a subscriber to your magazine, I read in

MAIL CALL

every issue the growing strength of the anti-gun advocates and ironically with officials I even voted for. I believe it's time to look at the third largest political party, the Libertarian Party. Tell the politicians "hands off" and show them at the polls. The big two have failed, let's give someone else a try.

David Luff

Sterling, Virginia

Voting for Libertarian candidates may aid anti-gun politicians by drawing off votes that otherwise would go to more pro-gun Republicans or Democrats. Remember, 40 million Americans voted for the rabidly anti-gun Michael Dukakis.

Back Issues

I have enjoyed your fine magazine since I discovered it by accident in 1982. I have found it to be entertaining as well as informative. In fact, I have included it in my personal library for reference and so that my children may enjoy it in the future. But my collection is incomplete and no source of back issues seems to be available. If you would publish my address in your letters section I would like to buy from someone the first seven issues Jan 82 to Aug 82. Thank you for your help. P.M. Fitzwater

773 Garden Ct. Apt. E Tampa, Florida 33608

AK Designations

Could you please explain what the different types of AK rifles are, such as AKS and AKM? I once thought that AKS meant semiauto and the AKM meant machine gun, but I know now it means something else and I can't quite figure it out. I recently acquired an Egyptian AK type rifle made by Maadi Company and it is stamped ARM Semi Automatic Rifle and the serial number is \$0005755. What does ARM mean?

Larry G. Powell Elmo, Texas

A good book for reference facts on AK47 rifles is AK47 The Complete Kalashnikov Family of Assault Rifles by Duncan Long, available through Paladin Press. We spoke to Duncan Long about your rifle. He believes it is an AKM semiauto version patterned after the Soviet AKM (Avtomat Kala-

shnikova sistemi Modernizirovanniy). These rifles were imported into the U.S. until the cheaper Chinese rifles came on the market. The Soviet AKM, begun in 1959, is a sheet-metal version of earlier AK47 models and was engineered to be more durable and lighter. The AKS is a Chinese semiauto version of the AK, the "S" stands for semiauto.

Political Predators

Your article on the poisonous spiders in the September 1989 issue of ASG was very informative and I'd like to compliment the authors on their knowledge of these potentially dangerous little fellows. But I might add that there is in our country a creature whose "sting" has the long term ability to alter the individual thinking responses of the American population. A creature whose sole purpose is to undermine the external immune system of the general population and render its prey open to the subjective rule that it deems necessary to remain "unapproachable" regardless of how extreme its wishes and authoritative powers may seem. And that, of course, is our elitist politicians who decide what they should earn, what you should earn, what you see, read, hear and know. With the combined effect of the government-controlled media and modern subliminal messages, the time to eradicate this dangerous species and reevaluate our democracy is now. Americans must join together as a force to be reckoned with all across the country before we no longer have the ability to do so. Every day our elected pals are working toward this with no holds barred. We must stop the governmental onslaught while we still can.

Mike Turner Marston, Missouri

Correction

In the article on the Springfield Armory Super Match M1A Rifle featured in our February issue, it was incorrectly stated in a caption under a photo of the rifle's flash suppressor on page 58 that the gas adjustment is located near the flash suppressor. The gas adjustment is located in front of the forward ends of the stock and handguard.

The Spirit of Che Guevara:

Terrorism in assault on Chile... South America

By Carl Yaeger

THE terrorist situation in Chile is unique. It is the only country experiencing terrorism where a unit of a 'legitimate' former government has taken up the bomb and the gun, and become a terrorist organization, dedicated to over-throwing the existing government.

The seeds of Chilean terrorism began on November 3, 1970. On that day, Latin America's first democratically elected communist president, Salvador Allende Gossens, was sworn in. Although the new president declared "to faithfully fulfill the post of president of the Republic preserving the integrity and independence of the Nation, and

to guard and enforce the Constitution and the laws," it soon became apparent that Allende was marching to a different drum beat other than Chilean nationalism. His drum beat was that of Marxism and the legacy of the Argentine-born revolutionary, Che Guevara, and his goal was to turn Chile into a classic Marxist state.



Partial view of the 3,383 M-16 rifles recently found in northern and central Chile.



One of the cars destroyed in the attack on the presidential convoy on September 7, 1986.



Windshield of the presidential car which was struck by small arms fire and unexploded rockets.

The dream of Che Guevara, the guerrilla communist who was killed in Bolivia in 1967 while trying to create a Marxist Latin America, was about to come true in Allende's Marxist Chile.

Shortly after Allende's assumption to power, Moscow and Havana were pouring in supplies and advisors to the new communist nation.

Chile had always been considered a breadbasket. The nation was almost self-sufficient in foodstuffs and in many consumer goods. It had a large and prosperous middle class, and had avoided much of the political turmoil of coups and counter-coups which ravaged many other Latin American nations. Its armed forces had been, with rare exceptions, apolitical and had left the governing of the nation to civilians.

Chile's economic system was thrown into a tailspin when the Popular Unity Party of Allende decreed that several hundred different companies would come under state control in order to "end monopoly and exploitation." The objective of this program was, of course, to destroy the middle class and any opposition to the Marxist regime. The result of the takeovers and the mismanagement of the economy, was an economic crisis of massive proportions. When Allende took power, inflation was a manageable 34.9 percent, mild, by Latin American standards. This figure reached 163.4 percent in 1972, and in 1973, when the Military Junta took over, it had soared to a peak of 300 percent. Chile was importing foodstuffs and consumer goods in great amounts, mostly poor quality products from communist nations.

The MIR Shock Troops - The Moviemento de Izquierda Revolucionario, MIR or Movement of the Revolutionary Left, is a Marxist, largely middleclass guerilla-terrorist organization, which was founded at the University of Concepcion in 1965. The "Miristas," outlawed by previous governments because of the ties to the Terrorist Tupamoros of Uruguay, and the Ejercito Revolucinario del Pueblo of Argentina, quickly became part of Allende's coercive apparatus to communize Chile by becoming the government's shock troops in forcing Allende's takeovers. Formed into armed paramilitary units, and acting directly under the orders of the more extreme elements of the Popular Unity Party

but free from government controls
the Miristas were given quasigovernmental status.

The Miristas engaged in the violent

and illegal seizure of farms and businesses throughout Chile, and attempted to establish liberated zones in the southern provinces and in the workers suburbs of the major cities. The MIR established "Soviets" of workers and peasants and armed them, thus creating a worker's milita to counterbalance the armed forces. Also, the MIR served as Allende's bodyguards — sort of a secret service — and acted as his praetorian guard.

The true nature of MIR violence came to light when General Rene Schneider, the Commander-in-Chief of



Ernesto "Che" Guevara, Castro's former guerilla theoretician.

the Chilean Armed Forces, was ambushed and assassinated by a Mirista terrorist hit squad. This act, more than any other, set the Chilean armed forces on a collision course with the Allende government and his MIR supporters.

The military leaders of present-day Chile claim that the trigger which toppled the Allende regime — and ultimately his violent death in Moneda Palace, was the discovery of detailed MIR plans to assassinate hundreds of opposition leaders which included senior military officers, conservative politicians and journalists, businessmen, and any others considered a threat to Allende's government. This "night of the long knives" would have taken place on Chile's independence day, 1973.

Huge clandestine arms cashes were discovered throughout the country. In the Presidential Palace alone, enough weapons to arm 1,000 men were found. Cuban and Soviet weapons had been flooding the country since Allende's assumption of power and were finding

their way into the hands of MIR paramilitary units.

At 4 a.m. on September 11, 1973, the Junta struck. Army tanks rumbled up to Moneda Palace and fired point blank. The Chilean air force dropped bombs on the Palace and MIR strong-holds in Santiago. In the port city of Valpariso, the naval garrison attacked MIR enclaves and the Carabineros, the internal security police, rounded up thousands of Miristas and other Allende supporters and put them in concentration camps. Many were summarily executed.

Soon, it was all over. Allende was found dead in the rubble of the Presidential Palace, and a new government, the Government Junta of the Armed Forces and the Carabineros of Chile, under the presidency of General Augusto Pinochet, came to power.

Those members of the MIR who were not killed or imprisoned, fled into exile or went underground in Chile to await a new opportunity to strike. Those remnants of the MIR which escaped, became part of the Latin American "terrorist International" - the Junta of Revolutionary Co-Ordination (JCR) which was composed of the Argentinian Ejercito Revolucinario del Pueblo (EDP) or Revolutionary Army of the People, and the now-defeated Tupamoros from Uruguay, and the Bolivian Ejercito de Liberacion Nacional (ELN) or National Liberation Army. These three terrorist-guerrilla organizations developed a war chest of \$5 million, mostly from sympathetic nations such as Cuba, the Soviet Union, and the Third World. The money was used to fund operations throughout Europe, arms procurement, and the production of a revolutionary journal entitled Che Guevara.

The highest priority of the JCR was the overthrow of the Chilean military government, and the assassination of Augusto Pinochet.

Chile is a special target for communist terrorism because it is the only country to successfully overthrow a communist regime.

The late leader Leonid Brezhnev provided a clue to the impact in the Kremlin of what happened on September 11, 1973 in Chile. In a speech of January 13, 1980, explaining the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, Brezhnev said: "... the time came when we no longer could fail to respond to the request of friendly Afghanistan. To have acted otherwise, would have meant leaving Afghanistan to the prey of imperialism, allowing the aggres-

Terrorism in South America

sive forces of reaction to repeat in that country, what they had succeeded in doing in Chile..."

In 1980, the Kremlin, the underground Communist Party of Chile (PCC) and the Soviet KGB, began a program of subversion based on terror. The MIR, and a new group, the Manual Rodriquez Patrotic Front (FPMR) named after a 19th Century Chilean hero, launched a campaign of destabilization and terror shortly after Brezhnev's speech.

A Strategy of Terror - An April 1985 report by the PCC's political commission to its central committee laid out a strategy of terror. It stated . . . "We believe that it will take a mass uprising, to overthrow the dictatorship. We refer to a state of general rebellion, proceeded by a campaign of terror, that will truly paralyze the country: popular action in the key urban centers with decisive participation of the industrial proletariat, students, middle strata and peasants. This action must be backed by effective blows to paralyze the dictatorship and help to accelerate the moral and political disintegration of its repressive forces. This process should culminate in the capture by the masses of the main political centers of the country."

The PCC has developed an elaborate underground organization which has been in existence since 1922, when the PCC was founded. It is the largest Communist Party in Latin America, after Cuba's. It was merged with the People's Democratic Movement (MDP), the pro-Soviet Clodomiro Almeyda faction of the Chilean Socialist Party, directed from East Germany, and the action agencies which would carry out the "campaign of terror" of the coalition, are the MIR and the FPMR.

Since 1973, thousands of MIR militants had received terrorist training in Cuba the Soviet Union, and the Middle East, and have reinfiltrated back into Chile. Most of the training took six months or more and, when completed, Cuba assisted their return with false passports and identification papers, and insertion by trawlers or even submarines. Towards the end of 1980, several hundred Miristas were already in place. According to MIR leader Pascla Allende, the late president's nephew, 1986 would see the beginning of the final campaign to get

rid of Pinochet and return Chile to Marxism.

The MIR is believed to have about 4,000 members in Chile at the present time, and the FPMR about 2,000-6,000 in all, in a country with a population of 12 million. That would be the equivalent of a terrorist guerrilla force of 120,000 in the United States.

In the terrorist phase of the "Comeback Plan," the Mirista-Manual Rodriquez terrorists have been responsible for the following actions:

1983 — a series of bombings against electrical utilities throughout Chile.

1984 — FPMR commandos bombed or shot at police or military installations eight times killing four and

stas and five Bolivians, all trainees at a guerrilla training camp, were arrested by the Bolivian army.

In early 1984, two Miristas were arrested in northern Peru driving a truck carrying a large quantity of arms destined for Chile.

In October 1985, Bolivian police raided a safe house in La Paz, where an FPMR support center was operating. They arrested Bolivian, Argentine, and Chilean nationals and found materials for falsifying documents, a direct-access telephone link to Havana, and an arms cache consisting of M-16 rifles, Soviet RPG-7 rocket launchers, and mortars.

That same month, Peruvian police



One of the Soviet rocket launchers used in the assassination attempt of September 7, 1986.

wounding five.

1985 — MIR—FPMR car bombs were exploded 11 times. One was outside the U.S. Consulate.

1984-1985 — Both groups carried out a series of kidnappings. The small son of a wealthy Santiago businessman was kidnapped, and a huge ransom paid. An official of Chile's national police, and a high ranking officer of the Santiago army garrison was kidnapped.

The PCC/MIR/FPMR assault on the Pinochet regime has all of the earmarks of a total Latin American terrorist effort, involving many different groups outside of those of the JCR. The MIR has solicited the support of those groups in nations bordering Chile in order to have access to training areas and supplies. Some evidences are:

In October 1983, two Chilean Miri-

discovered an arsenal of 1,000 rifles, 500 mortars, boxes of grenades, portable radar sets, outboard motors, and other war materials southeast of Tacna, Peru. Peruvians, Bolivians, Argentines, and Chileans were arrested for carrying false personal documentation, among other charges. The documents and weapons were later traced to Libya.

On August 6, 1986, Chilean security forces discovered the first of four caches of a 20-ton guerrilla-terrorist arsenal hidden in abandoned mine shafts 400 miles north of Santiago, along Chile's mostly deserted coastline. Later, several additional caches from the same shipment found in Santiago and two other towns, raised the total arms discovered to 50 tons.

Twenty-nine members of the PCC and affiliated groups (MIR and FPMR)

had been arrested by mid-September. They told the 'interrogators' of DINA, Chile's ruthless secret police, that a similar shipment had been brought ashore from the Cuban trawler, Rio Najasa, lying at anchor outside of the country's 200-mile limit. Arms from that shipment had already been distributed to extremists in the country.

This fantastic haul of arms proved the obsession that both Moscow and Havana had about overthrowing Pinochet. The arms caches included the following:

3.383 M-16 rifles which were "sanitized and recycled" from captured American stocks in South Vietnam, 114 RPG-7 Soviet Rocket launchers, 148 Belgian FAL rifles, 2 million rounds of ammunition, 4,000 rockets and projectiles, 117 Soviet pistols, 2 tons of TNT, fuses, and detonators, and hundreds of boxes of C-4 plastic explosives.

George Jones, deputy U.S. Chief of Mission in Santiago, stated that the Chilean arms caches constituted the largest quantity of weapons ever reported by a Latin American nation. There was no doubt about it, the PCC and its MIR/FPMR hit men were planning a full-scale war, and these were the weapons with which to wage it. The signal for the beginning of the war was to be a cataclysmic event.

Assassination Attempt — The trigger for the uprising against the Military Junta was almost a repeat of the "night of the long knives" of 1973. The weapons were in place for distribution but, instead of hundreds being singled out for elimination, the general rebellion and the all-out terrorist assault would begin with the assassination of General Pinochet.

On September 7, 1986, the president and members of his staff, were travelling in a protected motorcade on a canyon road some 18 miles south of Santiago. Twenty-five guerrilla-terrorists, a combined MIR-FPMR hit squad, lay in ambush with an assortment of weapons which would "guarantee" the president's death. A volley of rocket and automatic rifle fire raked the presidential convoy. Five members of Pinochet's guard detail were killed and nine others were wounded, but the president was only slightly injured. Skillful evasive driving by his chauffeur enabled him to escape.

The MIR/FPMR is constantly seeking new targets, especially those which represent North American interests. One institution which has been targeted in Chile in 1989, is the Church

of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, or "the Mormons."

Mormon chapels have been dynamited with increasing frequency, although neither members nor missionaries have been harmed as they have been in Bolivia. The Mormon Church is perceived by the MIR/FPMR as an agency of North American imperialism; an arm of American capitalism masquarading as a religious organization and headquartered in Utah.

And so, little has changed since. Pinochet is still in power and the Junta is firmly entrenched. Despite promises of future elections. Pinochet rules Chile with an iron hand and with the ruthless assistance of the armed forces, and anti-terrorist organizations such as DINA, and the carabineros. The MIR/FPMR are still active, though slightly battered after the massive sweeps since the assassination attempt, and arms are still being smuggled into Chile over the Andes, and from the sea.

In 1966. Fidel Castro hosted the Tri-Continental Conference in Havana and "liberation fighters" from the three Third World continents of Asia, Africa, and Latin America attended to plan and co-ordinate a unified assault against the forces of imperialism.

Ernesto "Che" Guevara, Fidel Castro's guerrilla theoretician, devised the strategy of entering Bolivia, a poor landlocked nation bordering on five other countries, and launching a guerrilla war which would spread continent wide. Fortunately, for Bolivia and the rest of South America, his strategy failed. The capture and subsequent execution of Guevara by tough, U.S.trained Bolivian rangers, proved the risks — and perhaps the obsolescence of rural guerrilla war.

A new strategy was adopted shortly after his death in 1967. Carlos Marighella, the veteran Brazilian terrorist wrote a small volume titled The Minimanual of the Urban Guerrilla, which is now required reading by terrorist groups around the world. The Mini-Manual signaled the shift of emphasis — from the dangerous countryside, to the sanctuary of the cities.

Although the strategy of Che Guevara's rural guerrilla warfare may be overshadowed by Marighella's, Che Guevara is still the patron saint of the "liberation struggle."

What effects the recent reverses of communism in Eastern Europe and liberalization of the political system in the Soviet Union will have on groups such as the MIR and FPMR are unknown at present.

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Water Safety:

Drowning Prevention

Alcohol plays

a major role

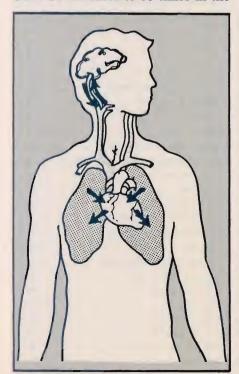
in 80 percent

of all drowning

cases...

By Ralph LaPlant

VERY year about 150,000 people drown, 7,000 in the United States alone. 90 percent drown within 10 yards of safety. Males drown 3 to 5 times more frequently than females and this increases to 30 times in the



Mammalian Dive Reflex

The H.E.L.P. position will lessen body heat loss. (Reprinted by permission of the National Rifle Association of America).

younger age groups. Drowning is the third most common cause of death in infants, following neonatal mortality and motor vehicle accidents.

Contributing causes in children can include lack of supervision, intoxicated supervising adults, child neglect and abuse, and parents not knowing who is watching the child.

In adults contributing factors can include alcohol (in up to 80 percent), boating mishaps, poor or no swimming ability, injuries, medical problems (heart attacks, strokes, suicides, etc.), bad weather, getting tangled in weeds or rope, and cold (hypothermia).

Before we talk about what should be done for the drowning person, let's talk about preventative measures. It would seem that if alcohol is a contributing factor in up to 80 percent of the cases, refraining from it would be prudent when near the water. Another thing that would help matters greatly is the wearing of PFDs (personal flotation devices). In Minnesota, where I live, it is required that every person on board a watercraft wear or have readily accessible a Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III, or IV personal flotation device (PFD) which is in serviceable condition. Furthermore, it must be of the appropriate size for the intended wearer, if it is the type that is to be worn. In 1988 Minnesota set requirements that included waterfowl

hunters to have PFDs accessible also.

There are 4 basic types of PFDs. The Type I is a vest or yoke type device generally found on commercial craft. It is designed to turn most unconscious persons from a face downward to a face up position in the water.

The Type II is a buoyant vest that often looks like a horse collar and is worn like a bib. It has the same turning ability as a Type I, but will not turn as many persons under similar conditions.

The Type III PFDs are special purpose. These are foam filled usually, and come in a variety of colors and styles, including vests for sailing, canoeing, water-skiing, hunting, and general boating as well as full-sleeved jackets. They will not upright an individual, but offer the protection against immersion hypothermia.

Type IV PFDs include buoyant cushions or ring buoys. These are not designed for wearing. These, as all other PFDs should be checked periodically to assure that they are still in serviceable condition.

Let's assume that the PFD has been worn (if not that, close enough to be grabbed) and you are in the water. It is important to remember that body heat is lost up to 30 times greater in water than in air and cold water is not going to help matters. Keeping your head out of the water is impor-





tant, not only for the fact that you will be able to breathe, but that 50 percent of body heat is lost from the head. The neck, sides, and groin are other high heat loss areas. There is a position, the H.E.L.P. (heat escape lessening posture). This position increases the time that it takes for heat

to leave the body. It should be noted that some PFDs prohibit such a position and that a partial H.E.L.P. position is better than none. If you are not alone, huddle with others.

Swimming to shore is usually not suggested as some victims are not good swimmers to begin with and the cold water does not help. Staying with the watercraft is suggested as it is easy to spot compared to a person. Swim only if there is no chance of being rescued, and if at all possible, have a PFD with you.

OK, you are not the victim, but the rescuer. Do not go into the water to save someone unless you are a good swimmer and have been trained in water rescue.

If the victim is responsive and close, you can hold out an object and have him or her grab it, allowing you to pull them to safety. A branch, oar, stick, anything similar should work. You can possibly grab the person, making sure that you will not be pulled into the water by strong current or the victim himself.

If the victim is alert, but too far to reach an object held out to him, you can throw an object that will float. A PFD is great. Other objects that float are air mattresses, inner tubes, coolers, boards, lots of things. Once this reaches the victim, try to tow him to shore if it is attached to a line. When you pull, make sure you are safe, being no deeper than waist deep if you are wading out.

If the victim is too far away to reach for handing or throwing an object, you can row a boat to him. Wear a PFD! If the victim is conscious, have him grab the stern of the boat. You can hand an oar also to help him get into the boat. It can be very tricky, especially in a canoe to have a victim board. Be careful.

Medically we have priorities. The airway, breathing, and circulation status of the victim must be established. All water accident victims are considered to have neck and back injuries until proven otherwise. Hypothermia has to be considered. Other injuries and illnesses should be considered also. Let's sort this out.

If the victim is alert, we can rule out major airway, breathing and circulation problems. There could be a spinal injury, hypothermia, or other problems. The good news is that for now, the ABCs are intact.

If the victim is not responsive, we must, as soon as we can reach him, open the airway and assure that he is breathing on his own or with our help. This can be done with the victim in the water, the head above the water line. The head-tilt/chin-lift maneuver is suggested in most cases for opening an airway, but if there is suspicion of a spinal injury, try to use the jaw-thrust maneuver. The priority is an open airway, but again try to be con-

Drowning Prevention

siderate as to the possibility of a spinal injury. If there is breathing, great. If not, give mouth to mouth ventilations. Don't worry about whether there is a pulse or not until you get the individual onto a flat surface as you can not do external chest compressions otherwise. Once there, check for a pulse, and do chest compressions if need be.

I feel it is important at this time to mention MDR, the mammalian dive reflex. When the face is immersed in cold water, blood circulation concentrates on the core of the body, mainly the heart, lungs, and the brain. This can extend the survival time of an individual who is not breathing, or not breathing and having no heart beat from the normal 4-6 minutes to over 45 minutes. Contributing factors to the MDR are age, the younger the better, and cold water.

It seems that the mammalian dive reflex is strongest at birth and slowly decreases with age. Cold water is what induces the MDR. Water below 70 degrees F. Even in summer the water temperature is below 70 degrees F. below the thermocline. The point of all this is that all drowning victims should have resuscitation attempted on them. Even the "obviously dead." Immersion hypothermia causes a slowing of body metabolism, apnea (stoppage of breathing), and bradycardia (slow pulse rate). Don't be fooled! Try!

As far as the spinal injuries go, the removal of a victim from the water should cause no twisting, bending, or shaking. Maintain body alignment if at all possible. Ideally a backboard or similar device can be slid under the victim. If no backboard is available, try to have enough helpers lifting and removing the victim as a unit. One person in charge works best while doing this.

Once the victim is removed, you can treat other problems as priorities allow. if hypothermia presents itself, remove all wet clothing as soon as possible and wrap the victim in blankets or a sleeping bag. Again, remember to cover the head, groin, and sides of the chest. Do not allow victims that have been rewarmed to walk, as stagnant blood, possibly cool, can circulate into the body's core. This can cause "afterdrop." For the same reason, hypothermia victims should be treated carefully.

One question often asked is "should





I get the water out of their lungs?" Let's look at the drowning process itself. Initially there is panic, a struggle, and breath holding. The victim swallows large amounts of water and vomits and aspirates (sucks it into the windpipe). This is a wet drowning. In a dry drowning, the victim has a laryngospasm that prevents water from getting into the lungs. When the laryn-

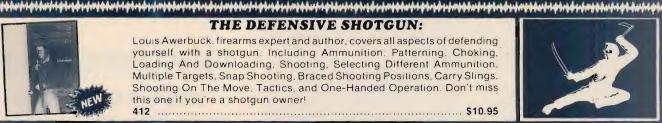
gospasm relaxes, the victim is not breathing and little, if any water enters.

In either case, do not waste time getting water out of the lungs, but get oxygen into the lungs.

Once we educate people to avoid alcohol, wear PFDs, take C.P.R. courses, and keep a closer eye on children, we should be able to drop the near drowning and drowning statistics.

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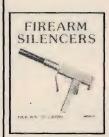
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